

Panahon na! [It's time!]
Filipino AIDS Awareness Week includes
Pinoy Positive Panel, Celebration of Life.

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Building visions:
Designs for community
center on display.

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No absolutes:
Mark Matousek on sex,
death & enlightenment.

see Arts section



BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 13 • 27 March 1997

Serving the Gay & Lesbian Community for more than 25 years

Milk Club unanimously denounces sex club regulations

by Liz Highleyman

The Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Democratic Club devoted the bulk of its Tuesday, March 25 meeting to a discussion of the recently codified minimum standards put forth by the Department of Public Health (DPH) to regulate the city's sex clubs.

Supervisor Tom Ammiano facilitated the discussion. He was the sponsor of proposed legislation to create a permitting process for sex establishments; Mayor Willie Brown "pulled the plug" on that legislation last fall. Ammiano said he was interested in holding such a forum to bring the discussion "out of City Hall" and involve new people in the debate.

Tracey Packer and Mike Pendo of the DPH AIDS Office, Wayne Blankenship of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and Jonathan Klein of Citizens United for Sexual Privacy (CUSP) briefly explained the position of their agency or organization, followed by lively public discussion and questions.

Soon after the initial speaker concluded, a motion was put forth from the floor by Bob Basker of the Milk Club and fleshed out by Race Bannon of CUSP, asking that the Milk Club formally respond to the DPH policies. The motion stated, in part, that the club should "strongly urge" the DPH to "eliminate ... the ban on private spaces and the monitoring of sexual activities in San Francisco's sex establishments," and to "involve the gay, lesbian, and bisexual communities in the process of developing policies which recognize the importance of

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Bay Area activists arrested, beaten in NYC ACT UP demo

by Dennis Conkin

Two members of ACT UP/Golden Gate and 70 other AIDS activists were arrested during a confrontation with New York City Police at a tenth anniversary Wall Street protest Monday, March 24.

Activists Bill Thorne and Ed Zold were both arrested on charges including disorderly conduct and resisting arrest at the protest, which drew 500 AIDS activists from around the country — and an estimated 500 police officers as well.

Thorne was treated and released from a New York City hospital for facial and scalp lacerations following his arrest.

The demonstration was held exactly ten years after the historic 1987 Wall Street traffic blockade by demonstrators protesting pharmaceutical manufacturer Burroughs-Wellcome's price-gouging for AZT, and demanding corporate and government action to end the AIDS crisis.

"It's ten years later and we've won many victories, but some things haven't changed," said activist Virg Parks. "Drug company profiteering is still killing people. These corporate giants are pricing their new life-saving drugs, like protease inhibitors, out of the reach of thousands of people with AIDS."

Activists also complain that funding of the federal AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) falls far short of the need to cover existing AIDS treatments in many parts of the country.



AIDS activists marched on Wall Street to commemorate a historic 1987 protest there.

Thorne said that he and Zold were members of an affinity group that attempted to break through an opening in police barricade lines and commit civil disobedience, but were immediately set upon by police.

"There were five or six officers on me im-

mediately," he said. Thorne, 33, suffered the laceration as his head was "banging against the ground and the cops called me a motherfucking cocksucker, a diseased faggot, and a couple of other things" during his arrest.

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Stop AIDS hosts crystal forum

by Liz Highleyman

The Stop AIDS Project hosted one in a series of forums on crystal use in the gay community on Thursday, March 20. The project's goal, according to facilitator Matthew Denckla, is to "break the silence" around the issue and raise awareness of the connection between speed use and HIV risk behavior. The event brought together health experts, users, former users, and interested community members.

Michael Gorman of the University of Washington discussed the recent increase in methamphetamine use, especially on the west coast, and noted that we are in the midst of the "third postwar epidemic" of speed use. The first was in the 1940s, when many soldiers and civilians were introduced to the drug during World War II, and the second took place in the 1970s. The current epidemic is heralded by a significant increase in methamphetamine-related emergency room admissions and deaths.

Gorman noted that there are a variety of different "user profiles" of populations that use the drug, from the "outlaw bikers" who add speed to their coffee, to blue-collar workers who see crystal as the "poor person's cocaine," to members of the young, gay, dance and party scene.

Methamphetamine may be used in several forms: smoked, snorted, or injected. Injection using shared needles raises concerns



Crystal clear: Matthew Denckla, Libby Sajo and Michael Gorman speak at the March 20 event.

about HIV transmission. Gorman noted that among speed users in treatment in San Francisco, 56% have injected the drug. He emphasized that little is known about the population of speed users as a whole, and that further research is needed.

How it works — and doesn't

Libby Sajo, a nurse practitioner at the Haight Ashbury Free Clinic Detox, discussed the biology of methamphetamine use. Speed

works by increasing the action of excitatory neurotransmitters, chemical messengers that are responsible for communication between nerve cells. Speed use can "burn out" these neurotransmitters, leading to a post-use "crash."

Initial effects include increased energy and a feeling of enhanced sociability.

Side effects may include cardiovascular abnormalities, seizures, tooth decay, depres-

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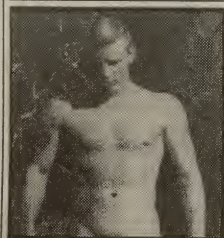


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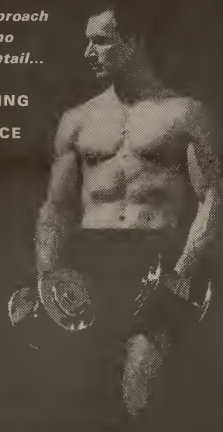
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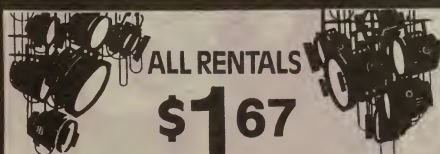
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Jane Pholmen-Gleason

Project Inform's Martin Delaney (left) and Tom Teasley pose with an Oscar facsimile at the Academy of Friends bash at the Festival Pavilion at Fort Mason March 24. The annual event raised thousands for eight different Bay Area AIDS organizations, and this year's *tableaux vivants* were reportedly a huge hit, not to mention the pastries.

SF Punchline patron isn't laughing over anti-gay routine

by Dennis Conkin

A nationally known comic's run at San Francisco's premiere comedy club the Punchline March 13-15 included such brutal and offensive anti-gay and sexually harassing jibes that at least one patron has contacted the city's Human Rights Commission and lesbian and gay groups for assistance.

Sam Curlee said that he and two friends were singled out on Saturday, March 15, when they went to see Bobby Slayton perform at the popular Battery Street comedy venue.

"He stated that he saw us when he came onstage and recognized us as homosexuals and decided to leave us alone," Curlee told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "but midway through his act he decided he was going to start in on us."

His jokes were vulgar and rude, Curlee said. "But what makes this an act of defamation is his singling out of myself and my companions."

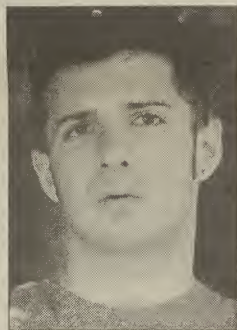
Curlee said that Slayton started his harangue by calling the group's table "The Homo Table." After directing the audience's attention to the trio, he asked Curlee's boyfriend if "he was hitting on that sweet little boy next to him."

Curlee said Slayton could see he was embarrassed by the attention and stepped up the attack.

"I asked my companion if he wanted to leave," Curlee told the *B.A.R.*, "and again he came back to us and made fun of the way we were talking, saying, 'See how they talk. They all act like flight attendants.'"

"Look how mad he is. But see how well they dress. Look how pretty he is and how nice he looks."

Then, after Slayton asked if it was "nice to hang out with guys and still get a blow job," he put his mouth to the microphone in a suggestive way.



Sam Curlee

Richard Simmons and fisting

Also in Slayton's routine were anti-gay attacks on Richard Simmons and gay servicemembers.

"He also said things like, 'Richard Simmons is a faggot. Even gay people hate him because he's a faggot,' and, 'Gay people don't belong in the military because no one wants to bend over next to them in the trenches,'" Curlee recalled. "And then he looked at me and said, 'Back me up on that, pal - no, wait, don't do that.'"

Curlee said that as he grew more distressed, Slayton took the opportunity to make further fun of him and his friends.

"One of the most out-of-place things he said was, 'If you want your money back, I can get it for you, and then you can go around the corner and get a fist-fucking,'" Curlee said.

During his comic routine Slayton also acknowledged that he was "too afraid to attack lesbians like he did gay men," Curlee said. "He said, 'I don't make fun of dykes because they'll beat you up - but gay men are powerless.'"

Curlee said that after his table quickly tired of the anti-gay attacks and got up to leave, Slayton directed the audience's attention to their departure.

"He said, 'Are you guys leaving? Well, fine. But hey, honey, you are a sweet piece of ass, come back after the performance, and I'll hit you up.'" The remark was directed to Curlee's woman friend.

Curlee said that he and his boyfriend felt so emotionally battered and devastated by Slayton's caustic and abusive routine that they couldn't make love that night, but could only try to comfort each other in the aftermath of the attack.

"We couldn't have sex, we just held each other," Curlee said. He also said that after the incident Slayton's routine made him feel "shame and self-hatred."

Anti-violence experts say Curlee's reaction is typical of someone who has been the recipient of hate speech-violence and verbal abuse.

Curlee, a 20-year-old journalism student, has been out since he was 15, and was active in high school lesbian and gay rights and visibility issues in his peninsula hometown of San Carlos.

He said Slayton's remarks were over the line and that the San Francisco gay community deserves an apology from the Punchline from the incident - and that Slayton should not be invited to perform at the club again.

In addition to filing a complaint with the HRC, Curlee has contacted Community United Against Violence, and Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

GLAAD/SF contacted Slayton about the incident, according to spokesman Don Romburg, but he refused to apologize for the routine.

Slayton did "feel sorry" that Curlee felt so awful and attacked in the incident, Romburg said.

Although he said the anti-defamation group "was encouraged" by the willingness of Slayton and Punchline general manager David Mayeri to discuss the incident, the group is "disappointed that neither have publicly apologized for this clearly offensive act." ▼

SF supervisors fight drive to exclude gay victims from Holocaust Museum

by Cynthia Laird

Two right-wing groups of Orthodox rabbis have called for a boycott of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and for Congress to withhold \$25 to \$30 million in federal funds until the museum stops elevating the status of gay Jewish people. In response to the congressional testimony, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a resolution Monday, March 24 supporting continued federal funding of the museum and its continued inclusion of the homosexual experience.

Mayor Willie Brown is expected to sign the resolution, which was introduced by Supervisor Susan Leal.

Mark Leno, an openly gay businessman who helped raise \$200,000 in the city's gay community for the museum, said he's saddened by the Orthodox rabbis' statements, but emphasized that their view is not shared by the majority of Jews.

"I think these rabbis are very far right-wing extremists. They represent a very small number of Jewish synagogues," Leno told the B.A.R. "I think they are sadly limited by their prejudices in life."

Leal's resolution states that the Orthodox rabbis made comments before a House Appropriations Subcommittee earlier this month that homosexuals do not belong in the Holocaust Museum. The museum, which is part of the Smithsonian Institution, is on the Mall in Washington, DC.

There is no special section singling out homosexual victims of the Nazis, museum officials said. But one of the examples of their inclusion is a wall full of small photographs of the Holocaust victims, the overwhelming majority of which are Jews. Some of the photographs are of men who were gay and persecuted for that reason.

According to an article in the *Jewish Bulletin*, between 10,000 and 15,000 homosexuals were killed by the Nazis.



A sign in the Holocaust Museum is a poignant reminder to never forget.

Rabbi Yehuda Levin, a representative of both right-wing Orthodox rabbi groups, said comparing that figure with the six million Jews, gypsies, and others targeted for elimination "is an outrage."

The *Jewish Bulletin* quoted Levin telling the congressional sub-committee that it is "a perversion" to include material about gay victims of the Holocaust. "Do we have a prostitutes' exhibit?" he asked at the hearing.

Abundant evidence

Leal said one of the reasons she introduced the resolution is because of the profound experience of visiting the museum. "I've gone to the Holocaust Museum," she said, "and it's important to me to see how gays were persecuted."

The resolution points out there is "abundant and clear evidence that the Nazis systematically persecuted homosexuals, including incarcerating men and women in concentration camps, forcing homosexuals to wear pink triangles for identification, [and] conducting heinous medical ex-

perimentation, torture, and murder."

Nationally, the Jewish community considers the two Orthodox rabbi groups, the Union of Orthodox Rabbis of the United States and Canada, and the Rabbinical Alliance of America, to be fringe groups among mainstream Orthodox rabbis.

Rabbi Doug Kahn, executive

director of the Jewish Community Relations Council in San Francisco, also told the B.A.R. that the two fringe groups do not represent the opinions of the vast majority of Jews.

"They're a fringe of a fringe," Kahn said. "I'm not aware of anyone who would observe it [a boycott]. It's extremely unfortunate that such a call was made, but it will not influence more than a tiny fraction of the viewing public."

Kahn and museum officials said that most of the 2 million people visiting the museum each year are non-Jews. Museum staff put the figure at about 80 percent.

Leno said he's very supportive of the Holocaust Museum and its role in preserving history about others who suffered during the Holocaust. He also said the muse-

um took "a bold step" when it decided to include gays who were persecuted.

"My understanding is the Tolerance Museum in Los Angeles was not interested in the million dollars we proposed to contribute," Leno said.

Last year, a national committee of gay and lesbian leaders raised \$1.5 million from the queer community for the museum. One million dollars went to the Holocaust Museum's general fund, and \$500,000 went to establish the first-ever gay and lesbian endowment fund that helps augment the ongoing curatorship of gay and lesbian materials, Leno said.

"The reaction to these rabbis has been tempered," Leno said. "They have been denounced by other Orthodox rabbis." ▼

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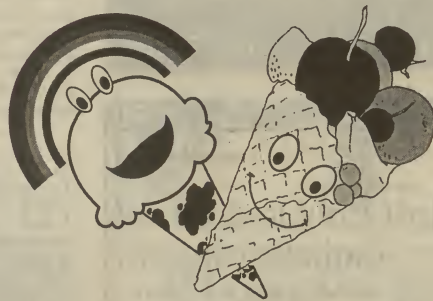
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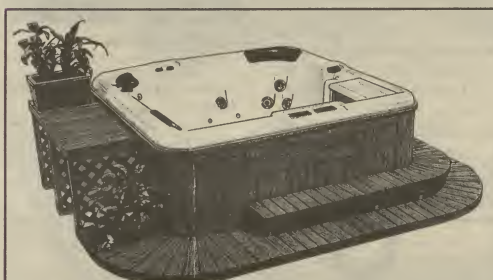
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HOLY SATURDAY, March 29
The Easter Vigil - 7:30 PM

EASTER SUNDAY, March 30
Masses - 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM

Basher arrested aboard Muni Mission line

by Dennis Conkin

A 30-year-old man was arrested March 9 aboard the 14 Mission Muni line on charges of felony assault on a public transit rider, plus an anti-gay hate crime enhancement, and remains in the Hall of Justice on \$15,000 bail pending a preliminary hearing this week.

Leo Stahmer was arrested aboard the 14 Mission after an altercation with two gay men at 1:58 a.m. According to a police report filed about the anti-gay attack, the incident took place shortly after Stahmer boarded the bus at 26th and Mission Street.

Stahmer sat next to the men and allegedly began verbally battering them with anti-gay hate speech, including such com-

ments as, "Look at the two little faggots: Faggots is what you are," and other remarks.

As the men tried to get off the bus, the defendant allegedly followed them, said, "What's up? You want some of me, you little faggots?" and punched one of them in the face.

Police were at the corner of 30th and Mission on another matter, and the bus driver waited as the injured passenger left the bus and flagged the officers.

Stahmer was charged with resisting arrest and false identification, in addition to the hate crime charge.

"That's automatic felony by the legislative intent. We have no discretion in charging," said District Attorney spokesman John Shanley. "It's not a wobbler."

Municipal Railway spokes-

woman Sharyn Saslasy told the *Bay Area Reporter* that Muni remained committed to making the transit system safe for passengers.

"We have zero-tolerance for hate crimes or any kind of violence on Muni," Saslasy said.

According to Saslasy, termination proceedings are now pending against Municipal Railway driver Wardy Joubert, who was recently convicted of felony gay bashing and hate crimes.

In that attack last July, Joubert was off duty but in uniform when he attacked passenger Sinisa Vukic, after Vukic and a friend briefly kissed each other goodbye on the 4 Sutter line. Last month a Superior Court judge indicated that he would grant probation in exchange for Joubert's guilty plea. ▼

Ammiano to sue over racist 'quote'

As Willie Brown leaps to his defense

by Dennis Conkin

Gay San Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammiano says he will sue a local newspaper for printing hearsay that libeled him, by claiming he referred to African-Americans with a racist epithet.

In the March 7 issue of the *San Francisco Bay View* newspaper, owned by Mary and Willie Ratcliff, columnist Marie Harrison wrote that she "had it on good authority that Tom Ammiano was overheard saying that he opposed the placing of a mall in the Bayview neighborhood, because those 'n——' will only steal everything."

Ammiano declined to talk to the *Bay Area Reporter* on the advice of his attorney, but released a letter demanding a retraction from the newspaper over the item.

"It goes without saying that I would never under any circumstances use such language or hold

such a stupid, bigoted opinion concerning the residents of the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood," Ammiano wrote.

Mayor Willie Brown also blasted Harrison in a letter he made public to the press.

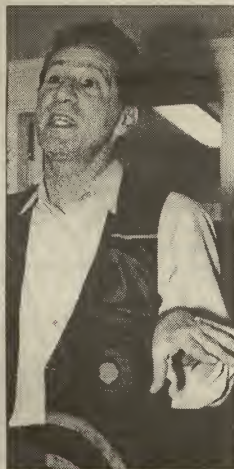
"No one who knows Tom would for one second believe what you attributed him saying," Brown wrote. "In the media business, being misquoted happens. But this goes beyond misquoting."

"Tom Ammiano has been a friend, ally and partner to the African-American community and Bayview-Hunters Point residents."

Harrison made the statement in a column in which she devoted ten paragraphs to Ammiano's position about the proposed 49ers stadium, and said the supervisor had faxed her 28 questions he was asking about the stadium.

The paper and its publishers are strongly pro-stadium. Ammiano has not taken a position yet.

"He asks questions and awaits



Supe Tom Ammiano

answers," said legislative aide Mike Housh.

In an italicized statement about the issue in the March 21 issue of the bi-weekly paper, the *Bay View* said it published the item because it believed it to be true, a statement publisher Mary Ratcliff reiterated to the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"Yes, we do stand by it," Ratcliff said, adding that she was not intimidated by the threat of a libel lawsuit. "He made an unfortunate choice of words that people commonly make without any intent to be offensive."

Libel action against the newspaper is proceeding, according to attorney Paul Melbostadt.

"The bottom line is that if they don't retract, we will sue," Melbostadt said.

Melbostadt sent a copy of the retraction demand to Grand Printing House, a printing firm owned by the Fang family, which publishes the 15,000-circulation *San Francisco Bay View*. ▼

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New speakers bureau features young queers

by Shan Schwartz

Queer youth in San Francisco now have a new way to attack homophobia and speak to their peers about what it's like to be gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender.

Community United Against Violence (CUAV) and Lavender Youth Recreation & Information Center (LYRIC) are joining forces to provide a speakers bureau for queer and questioning youth aged 23 and younger.

Rachel Bernstein, outreach coordinator at LYRIC, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the new speakers bureaus are an idea CUAV and LYRIC have wanted to coordinate for a long time.

"We have a lot of young people who want to tell their stories," Bernstein said. "A lot of times, young people are spoken for by someone else. But now, these young people feel like they have something to say."

CUAV has had its own speakers bureau, consisting mostly of adults, since 1978. But last fall's testimony from young people to the city's Human Rights Commission showed a greater need for peer education, said Marcus de Maria Arana, CUAV's speakers bureau coordinator.

The existing speakers bureau reaches about 6,000 students a year through visits to 250 classrooms in San Francisco.

Through the new program, young queer people will speak in pairs to middle school, high school and college classrooms throughout the Bay Area in order to stop homophobia and increase

awareness of the issues young queer people face every day.

Bernstein said the speakers bureaus were also an opportunity to break the isolation many young people feel when they begin thinking about their own identity.

"The speakers bureau will affirm to young people that they are not alone, by reaching into classrooms and youth organizations where sexuality and gender are often taboo subjects, where anything different from the norm is not allowed," she said.

Prevent violence before it starts

De Maria Arana said the youth speakers will teach diversity and respect to students who may not otherwise know a gay or lesbian person. The speakers bureaus mostly target students aged 12-18, because most gay-bashers are age 22 or younger.

"The speakers bureau prevents violence before it occurs, by demystifying homosexuality and bisexuality," he said. "By putting a face on the LGBT communities, it makes young people less likely to gay bash."

Bernstein said the speakers bureaus present a controlled environment where young people can ask questions and get to know the speakers without feeling threatened. She said audiences are usually very friendly and interested in what the speakers have to say.

"As soon as the speaker enters the room, they aren't hostile, they aren't mean, they just realize that it's another cool person, and they want to get to know that person," she said.

The first training session begins April 1 for young people interested in participating in speakers bureaus. The 15-hour training includes sessions on public speaking, HIV/AIDS information, and some role-playing exercises on dealing with difficult situations. The training also instructs speakers on how to address certain sexually related topics without saying inappropriate things in the classrooms.

Bernstein said anyone aged 23 or younger who identifies as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender, and is willing to go through training, is eligible to participate as a speaker.

Only a few spots are left for the April 1 speaker training. Bernstein said the next training is planned for the fall, and additional training might be added if demand warrants it.

LYRIC and CUAV are currently performing outreach to connect with schools and other organizations that may be interested in hosting a speakers bureau. But Bernstein said the need for a youth speakers bureau has been in place for some time.

"This is requested of LYRIC all the time," she said. "Now we can start returning phone calls and say, 'We've got some speakers for you.'"

Anyone interested in participating as a speaker or in hosting a speakers bureau should contact Rachel Bernstein at LYRIC, (415) 703-6150, or Marcus de Maria Arana at CUAV, (415) 777-5500.

Petaluma school system focuses on anti-gay harassment

PETALUMA, Calif., March 26 (UPI) - School officials in Petaluma, Sonoma County, are working on regulations and training to halt harassment of gay, lesbian, and bisexual students.

While the district's policy is not as elaborate as San Francisco's, which offers support services specifically for gay students, Deputy Superintendent Kim Jamieson said Wednesday, March 26 that the district hopes the program will halt harassment of sexual minorities.

Jamieson says discussions about a district-wide policy began in January 1995, when 15-year-old Robin Reed, a gay Petaluma High School sophomore, leaped to his death from the Golden Gate Bridge after years of torment by his peers.

Jamieson says a Wisconsin case in which a school district paid \$900,000 last year to settle a federal lawsuit over harassment of a gay student also created concerns.

Jamieson says, "We've had people address the school board on the issue of harassment and the negative impact that it has had on their lives in terms of self-image and health."

The Petaluma board's policy, similar to those in San Francisco and Los Angeles, prohibits any harassment that appears to be motivated by prejudice, based on race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, disability, gender, or sexual orientation.

The proposed regulation goes one step further - requiring staff training and student education on harassment of sexual minorities.

Petaluma officials say there have been several incidents on campus, including students' use of a slur against homosexuals in a cheer during a basketball game.

Gail Kaufman, a spokeswoman for the San Francisco School District, says, "School districts try to treat all students equally, but we live in a homophobic society, and that is reflected in our schools."

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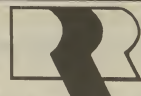


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OPEN FORUM

The Jerry & Ellen Show

As we were heading to press this week, we learned Jerry Falwell can think of no better way to spread the loving message of Jesus Christ than to organize a campaign denouncing Ellen DeGeneris and her sit-com title character's imminent coming out. Guess we failed to notice last week that all the other problems Christianity could address – poverty, crime, loneliness, etc. – have been eradicated. Otherwise, we can't imagine why a nationally-known person of the cloth would be wasting his time.

Ellen's coming out has been so protracted by now that a lot of the gay community is bored to tears by the whole thing; one wag has suggested that it has been preceded by so much hype that instead of a closet, she should come out of *Al Capone's vault*, with Geraldo Rivera providing the commentary!

Still, it is important to remember how many people take at least that long to come out. Even Elton John did the in-again-out-again dance, marrying long after everyone from the Queen on down knew he was, well, a queen on downs. Perhaps, then, it's good for all America to see how tortuous the whole procedure is, even for Ellen; it refutes the idea that people unthinkingly declare their homosexuality for the fun of it. (Falwell, remember, blamed garden-variety-*Ms.*-magazine feminism for prompting otherwise ordinary women to randomly declare themselves lesbians, take up witchcraft, and – as we recall – even murder babies.)

Now everyone who has read any media over the last few months must be aware of how difficult it really is for Ellen or anyone else to honestly acknowledge one's sexuality (more on the subject appears below, in the words of a grandfather who – like many others – still wrestles with years of conflict and the aftermath of choices that, although the best he could do, were still pretty much wrong). That awful and protracted process is, in fact, one reason we believe ex-gay ministries are doomed to fail: generally speak-

ing, those of us who have gone through the soul-searching and danger (real and imagined; social and physical) of coming out know how we really feel about members of the opposite sex and our own, so it's highly unlikely anything is going to make us wake up one morning and "turn" into something different. No amount of sanctimonious Bible-beating, shrieking, cajoling, or anything else can actually create the change that ex-gay ministries seek: not permanently, at least.

The best that those ministers, and Falwell, can hope to bring about is harmony among all peoples. And on that score, they're failing pretty miserably.

As long as we're talking about issues that have been dragging on in the press for ages, we might as well touch upon the use of the

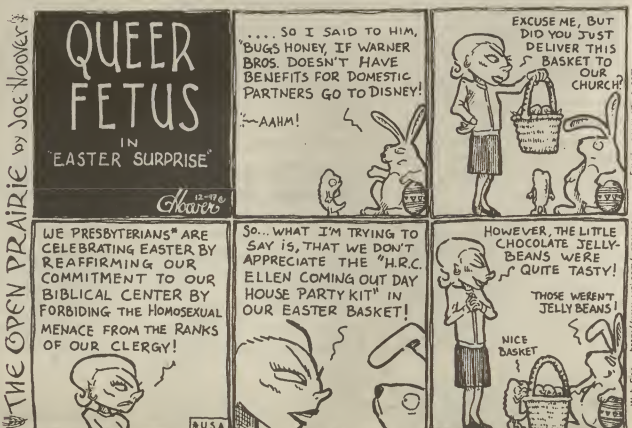
Lincoln Bedroom as a repository for President Clinton's donors. The practice is, we're sure, older than most of the antiques in the room in question; what concerns us much more is, as Steve Michael of ACT UP/DC points out, Clinton evaded the city's hotel tax. If as much money changed hands for the privilege of sleeping at the White House as has been said, we imagine the tax bill now due is in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Anyone who has seen the misery of most Washington residents must agree, the city needs the money.

Isn't that always the way? Millions for lodging rich people; pennies to house the poor. And still Jerry Falwell has nothing more important to do than write letters about Ellen.

"Jesus wept." – Luke 11:34 ▼



Editorial



Is your ex-wife as pissed off as mine?

by Robert N. Rowe

Every day throughout the United States, wives and girlfriends are confronted by the revelation that the men to whom they are committed are gay, and that expectations for a blissful marriage have been shattered. Of course, similar phenomena exist when roles are reversed and wives come out to their husbands. The effect can be equally devastating, producing feelings of betrayal, inadequacy, and extreme anger.

I hope the following clarifies the phenomenon of duplicity which plagues many marriages. On a personal note, I hope it helps my ex-wife understand my reluctance to admit to blame or calculated deceit.

Not until I had logged 23 years of marriage and parented three admirable children with my wife had I decided that the duplicity I was perpetuating must end. During my marriage and years prior, I felt compelled to remain closeted. There was no easily recognizable "gay pride" movement in the '50s to facilitate coming out. Homosexuality was treated as a mental disease that therapists struggled to "cure." The closet served me, and millions of other men and women, as a refuge from condemnation, rejection, and harassment.

Although, subconsciously, I may have felt that marriage would camouflage my true feelings, it was not a conscious calculated act. To my limited knowledge, heterosexual marriage in the 1940s and 1950s offered the most – probably only – palatable "lifestyle." I do not believe I was deceitful. But duplicitous ... yes. I was living two lives, one of fantasy and one of practicality. Social pressures, societal and internalized homophobia stood in the way of disclosure,

self-realization, and self-respect.

For more than 20 years, our marriage appeared successful. In terms of overt behavior, I was faithful to my wife, even though fantasy and desire were focused elsewhere. Even though I had known prior to puberty that I was drawn more emotionally and sexually to males than to females, I assumed I would be an exemplary husband and father. Ostensibly I was; certainly, my wife was an outstanding spouse and mother.

Finally, during my mid-forties, approximately 25 years ago, I discovered an underground community and a few clandestine publications that focused on acceptance of homosexuality as a natural phenomenon, not as a disease, sin, perversion, or personality disorder. The movement stressed that through public enlightenment, homosexuality will no longer be seen as a threat to society. In fact, unburdened by prejudice, homosexuality can offer a basis for constructive relationships for those people so inclined, and has the potential to be of benefit to everyone.

By coming out, I became a more complete person, enabling me to shed the curse of duplicity.

I always had acknowledged without reservation the burden my sexual orientation has placed on my family. With that in mind, I did not contest in any way the divorce settlement that gave my ex-wife the major portion of our equity and income. I was determined to facilitate as best I could her adjustment and the adjustment of our only minor child, our 13-year-old daughter, to the new life.

Unfortunately, during the ensuing 20 years, her anger festered to the point that

she, in essence, expects me to admit un-equivocally to guilt and deceit. Apparently, she is convinced such a declaration would bring relief and satisfaction to herself and serve as a catharsis for me.

I have known women who harbor anger equal to my wife's, but I also know other women who maintain amicable relationships with their ex-husbands. Many of those wives acknowledge the positive aspects of their marriages: children, shared affection, cooperative efforts to confront a multitude of life's challenges, etc. They realize that societal pressures can be overwhelming, causing young people often unconsciously to pursue relationships and other escape valves that are not realistic. Such a realization has allowed many ex-wives to accept their ex-husbands and to live their lives without the burden of uncontrolled anger.

As a final response to my ex-wife's anger and her hoped-for declaration of guilt and deceit, I must repeat: guilt I have shed. Love and affection were involved in our relationship, not a calculated deceit. Unfortunately, social pressure, ignorance, and misinformation also were involved. My fervent hope is that she can curtail her anger, thus creating a more harmonious atmosphere for herself and our children.

As adult homosexuals in all walks of life emerge from closets, young people will realize that constructive alternatives to conventional heterosexual marriage do exist. Doors will open further in all aspects of life, personal and social, allowing gays and lesbians to live openly without being scorned. Hopefully, there no longer will be a need for duplicity in relationships. ▼

Guest Opinion



LETTERS

Collecting queer history

We would like to clarify some points made by Samuel Menkes's letter in the March 13, 1997 B.A.R. concerning the Leather Archives and Museum. The San Francisco Public Library does not have "one of the country's most comprehensive lesbian and gay archives." Mr. Menkes is confusing the library's Gay and Lesbian Center with the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California (GLHS). GLHS was founded in 1985 by members of the queer community in San Francisco precisely because the library and other institutions in the area were not collecting our communities' histories. Although the library has since begun a GLBT collection of its own, we, not the library, have perhaps the most comprehensive such collection in the country.

We collaborate with the library on many projects, and have signed an agreement with them to place some of our collections on permanent loan to the Gay and Lesbian Center. This agreement allows for higher visibility and greater researcher access than we can provide as a largely volunteer-run community-based organization, because the library is open five days a week. We still retain ownership of the collections and may withdraw them if we are not satisfied with the library's custodianship. This arrangement helps protect our communities' history from the possibility that a future city administration might not believe it is expedient to make the records of GLBT history and culture available to anyone.

We are also in contact with the Leather Archives and Museum and would like to work with them in anyway possible. Ultimately, it is the donors who must choose the most appropriate archive for their historically significant materials. It is very important the Leather Archives and Museum, the San Francisco Public Library, the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society, and the other GLBT archives around the country all continue to collect historical materials. In the end we will all benefit by a vigorous and diverse collecting of queer history.

The GLHS has thousands of periodicals, personal papers, organizational records, photographs, and other historical artifacts that will never be deposited at the library's Gay and Lesbian Center. If you would like to view our collections, or find out more about how you can help support the work of this community resource, call us at (415) 777-5455, or come visit at 973 Market St. Suite 400, on Saturday and Sunday afternoons between 2 and 5.

Paula Jabloner, Archivist
Ruth Mahaney, Board Chair
Gay and Lesbian Historical Society
of Northern California

Peifernicious

Why can't Deborah Peifer ever find a lesbian novel she likes? Her reviews fall under the tired category of "I don't like the book the way it's written, but I can tell you how I want it to be written." Then she should write one herself. There must be lesbian literature out there which meets the mark. Deborah should be able to find something good for a change to tell us about.

Jessica Mills
San Francisco

Sweet bitter review

As an avid reader of both books and reviews, and having received Rita Schiano's *Sweet Bitter Love* at Christmas, I was particularly interested in your recent (Feb. 6) review by Deborah Peifer. While Ms. Peifer's plot summary convinced me that we had read the same book, her analysis both of the book and of its merit completely bewildered me.

Sweet Bitter Love is a tragedy in the classic sense. It is the tale of the intellectual blindness that accompanies emotional addiction, of a giver in love with a taker. Of course the protagonist repeats her behavior over and over and over. That is the nature of an addiction. And of course she doesn't see the futility of her actions. She is blind to the redundancy of her decisions as well as to the obvious alcoholism of her lover. Ms. Schiano's story is so universal that the names could easily be changed from Jenny and Susan to Jim and Walter or Mary and Bill. It is a story of human nature, not just or even necessarily a lesbian crotch novel. People do not usually grow from one experience but in plateaus. We tend to make the same mistake for a while, then grow beyond that condition to a new level of understanding. *Sweet Bitter Love* is the story of such a journey.

I can't help but wonder if politics doesn't enter into such a vituperative condemnation of this start by a beginning writer. How did this story hit such a nerve that it caused this reaction? Is the need to be in control so great in our San Francisco community that we can't even read about people who are having trouble coping with life and relationships?

Martha Pilgrim
San Francisco

Raving paranoia

Re: "Men's Club," *Mailstrom*, March 6: I see that Thomas Edwards has changed his name to Macbeth. Odd choice for a misogynist, given that Lady Macbeth was the only one in that family with any balls. Nonetheless, a raving, paranoid lunatic by any other name is still a raving, paranoid lunatic.

David Brown
San Francisco

Hot cookie

I must agree - regrettably - with Mr. Macbeth [*Mailstrom*, March 6]. For the occupations he itemized, requiring large amounts of force, fraud, and fear (e.g., politicians, soldiers, bureaucrats, and other thugs), the male of the species does seem to be more constitutionally suited. Especially the Republican male. The mind positively reels at what might happen to these ancient professions if women were to take them over. Myself, I'd be more than happy to get back to my cookie-baking.

Scott O'Hara
San Francisco

Saqunavirulent

I was deeply concerned at the multi-page ad in your [March 6] issue describing the protease inhibitor Saquinavir (Invirase) by Hoffman LaRoche. Saquinavir in its current formulation is a complete failure:

- It is only 4% absorbed;
- Low blood levels promote multidrug resistance and treatment failure;
- Clinical studies at Stanford have concluded the dose of three capsules three times per day should not be used without another concurrent protease inhibitor.

The ad did not reflect accurate data on Saquinavir. Running the ad disseminates misleading and possibly harmful information to our community and should not be done.

The two best protease inhibitors are Crixivan by Merck (Stadtlanders) and Viracept by Agouron. When Hoffman La Roche comes out with the new 20% absorbed Saquinavir, ads will then be appropriate.

David R. Senechek, M.D.
San Francisco

[Editor's note: We believe patients should discuss all medical options - from marijuana to Saquinavir - with their doctor. In the case of Saquinavir, as Dr. Senechek well knows, they must: nobody can just walk into Walgreen's and pick up a bottle off the shelf. Any doctor who feels it is harmful or ineffective shouldn't prescribe it.]

Distracting from the real issues

As an African-American living in San Francisco for 20 years, I am shocked and appalled at the three-ring circus that is taking place over the name change of Fillmore Street to Carlton Goodlett, MD street. The entire idea seems ridiculous and distracting.

Supervisor Amos Brown, a novice to politics and not a choice to represent the views of African-Americans in San Francisco, is way off course on his proposition. Certainly there must be other issues that are more important than distracting a community from the real issues that are destroying it. For example, redevelopment fed by the infamous Rev. Amos Brown in the Fillmore district helped to destroy the black community in that area. Drugs and alcohol in the African American community continue to devastate it. Heart disease, AIDS, breast cancer and other illnesses continue their toll on African-Americans. How about establishing education to help African-Americans become more aware of these diseases? Employment and underemployment is a major issue facing the community. Why doesn't the infamous Amos Brown open his church doors and enter into an agreement with Apple or IBM to obtain computers to train interested community members and teach them skills that will allow them to survive in the 21st Century? San Francisco and Bay Area schools leave a lot to be desired. If one can't afford a private school, their children are doomed to the corrupt Unified School Districts that exist, no doubt forced to learn to speak ebionics.

The cost to the City and County of San Francisco to change street signs is extremely expensive. Should money be spent to change signs or spent to improve the quality of life for all San Franciscans? How about schools with decent books and materials, centers to keep our youth off the street, better transportation in San Francisco, better police officers in the troubled Mission District, and just an end to crime in communities of color? I wish Supervisor Brown would attack a real issue and stop distracting the African-American community with the boring '70s accusation of racism.

B. Mikael Wagner
San Francisco

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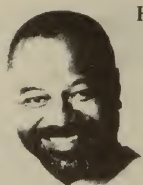
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✱ Easter Sunday, March 30

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to the S.F. AIDS Foundation

Bigotry is two-way street

I am writing to applaud the decision of the HRC to issue a Director's Finding against The Cafe, as reported in the March 6 issue of the *Bay Area Reporter*. As a longtime patron of The Cafe, I am shocked and upset that the bar tried to enforce an opposite-sex "no touch" policy. Manager Morgan Gorrone's refusal to apologize to the couple in question just adds insult to injury. How can any member of the gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender community attempt to justify any policy that, at its very foundation, is wholly discriminatory? Gorrone's tepid defense of this anti-heterosexual rule is simply pathetic.

As a gay male, I am proud that I have a diverse group of friends who did not become part of my life after first going through a screening process. Because of this, my friends, male and female, come from different parts of the country, practice different religions, and represent a variety of ethnic and social groups. Many of them also happen to be heterosexual. Contrary to Gorrone's asinine supposition that straight people come to The Cafe "looking for a three-way" after rolling off the F-line, my straight friends go with me because we are friends and we like to spend time together. I can also say, with a great deal of confidence, that most of the couples trolling The Cafe looking for a three-way are not heterosexual. Besides, if there is mutual consent, who cares who is looking for what?

If I am with a straight couple at The Cafe and they want to kiss, so be it. If a staff member attempted to stop or eject them, I would do the same thing that Damon Jacobs did. I would support my friends. I have seen numerous displays of rude, inappropriate and crass behavior at The Cafe, none of which I condone. However, in virtually all instances, the person demonstrating a lack of decorum was a gay male. Let us not be so aloof that we abhor bad behavior from one group while allowing it from another.

There is no place in our society for the type of policy that The Cafe is attempting to enforce. Bigotry is a two-way street. The root of bigotry is mistrust and ignorance. By attempting to ban physical affection on the part of one segment of the population, The Cafe is simply pandering to a fringe element in the gay community that endorses an isolationist mentality. Just because we experience discrimination at the hands of some heterosexuals does not mean that we should encourage a reverse form of the same type of discrimination. The Cafe does not seem to have a problem with straight people buying drinks there. With that in mind, they should be accorded the same respect as any other paying patron.

Until Morgan Gorrone is willing to end this backwards policy and apologize to the friends of Damon Jacobs, this is one member of the gay clientele of The Cafe who will be taking his business elsewhere.

Ron Hebshie
San Francisco

Locked out

In the February 27 issue, Wayne Friday stated in his column that Washington Governor Gary Locke was the first state chief executive to veto a "bill banning same-sex marriages."

Governor Roy Romer of Colorado vetoed such a bill last year. So Governor Locke was not the first state chief executive to veto such a bill.

S. Calvin Riley
Denver, CO

Pat's pockets

How can the SF AIDS Foundation justify a salary for Pat Christen of \$130,000 a year plus many unstated benefits, good hotels, room service, starched sheets, a limo to and from airports? Does she get her hair cut on the plane? Does she travel 3rd class? Does she get a tourist fee?

Does she really care that those on SSI and General Assistance live in hotels with no room service, blood-stained sheets, cigarette burns on mattresses, drug dealing in the halls all night, landlords who provide no heat and no toilet paper, charge visitors \$5 to visit tenants, have goons doing the desk work, while they sell drugs in the hotel?

It seems like the greed of those who think people can't see their fraud and lack of [concern for] those in need.

Ever try to get a job at SF AIDS Foundation or Open Hand? If you are not 20-25 years old, with a pretty face, have a waistline of 26, or a sex partner of another employee, or bend over whatever! You don't get into the circle of fantasy!

Look at their requirements for just a clerical position: 10 years at an AIDS service agency; have a Master's degree; know 10 computer programs; speak 4 different languages.

People should ask for an investigation into hiring practices at both agencies. What a scam!

Pat's budget: \$130,000/year
SSI, Person w/AIDS: \$640/month

Name withheld by request
San Jose, CA

Character reference

I've just finished reading an anonymous letter in the March 13 issue trashing Roland Bynum's reputation, a judge at this year's IML contest in Chicago. I take issue with the writer. He accuses Roland of sabotaging a Portland Court charity event by scheduling the 1997 Mr. Portland Leather contest at the same time. Please! Roland has held this contest at the same time for the past five years.

Additionally, the letter implies that Roland misappropriated "community funds." It also drags his partner, the infamous and wonderful Hun, into the mud (tacky, tacky, tacky). Mind you, the writer makes these outrageous accusations under the cover of "Name withheld by request." I find it amazing that the B.A.R. would print an anonymous letter attacking someone's character. Printing letters that attack someone's character should be contingent upon the writer disclosing his or her identity. Anything less is irresponsible.

Personally, I find anonymous accusations disturbing. They remind me of the "witch hunt" for gays in the military, where just being accused is cause enough for expulsion.

If the writer wants to "muckrake," he should at least have the spine to use his own name.

Pat Schwartz
San Jose, CA

Scheduling conflict

This is in response to the "anonymous" letter which was entitled "Roland Bynum, this is your life!" While the title may be titillating, it is hardly a summation of my life. If you choose to title letter as such, please include all aspects of that person's life. The letter you published only relates to events in the last 6 months of my life and contains nothing but questions to which the answer to most of them is, "Yes, so what?" Your election to publish such drive serves only to start a "let's fight in the papers" scenario. I strongly ask that you reconsider your policy of printing character assassinations from "anonymous" (and, in my opinion, cowardly) contributors.

As to the content of the letter itself, this entire brouhaha has truly been an unfortunate conflict of scheduling for the Portland communities. The clash of events caused RB/H Productions much anguish, and we pondered the timing of the events very carefully. In consultation with several people, we decided to proceed with the event, albeit on the same day as another event. After certain individuals and establishments deliberately sabotaged the contest's flyers and posters, we decided it was in the best interest of all to cancel the contest. It seemed to us that the current leather community "leaders" had forgotten whom they were elected to represent.

The letter contained three inaccuracies or half-truths which need to be specifically addressed:

1. The Mr. Portland Leather Contest advertisement was put out in November, long before any announcement of any other event being held on that date. Once the announcement of a second event was issued, it was no longer sponsored by the Court. It became a drag fundraiser for the Court sponsored by a title-holder of NLA Portland. The intent here was to confuse the Portland community into believing that two leather events were happening on the same day. It was apparent at this point that pettiness and divisiveness reigned. Sadly, it continues to reign to this day, as evidenced by the "anonymous" letter.

2. At no time has RB/H Productions pretended to be a "nonprofit" business under obligation to disclose financial transactions. For the record, however, RB/H Productions has spent substantially more money to promote the city of Portland and to support its title-holder, Mr. Portland Leather, than it has ever recouped from all events combined. Since we never discuss finances in public, the source of this attack is clear to us. It is interesting to note that the other business and organization that received funds from the same event have not been called on to disclose their ledgers. Nor do we anticipate that those records will be voluntarily forthcoming.

3. As to the reputation of International Mr. Leather, Inc., suffice it to say that IML is not on trial. By the consensus of many prominent individuals, the "anonymous" writer's stupidity about IML standards (and life in general) is obvious.

RB/H Productions has been a supporter of the entire leather community and will continue to be active in the promotion of our heritage. The current petty politics being played to the galleries by this Portland aberration are embarrassing and regrettable, but not out of character. While I am flattered by the control and power I apparently have over the "anonymous" writer's time, I am saddened that s/he doesn't have better things to do with his/her life. To the "anonymous" writer, I say, "Try knitting. At least it's productive." On behalf of the same members of the Portland community, I apologize to everyone that this "anonymous" person is trying to drag into this soap opera.

Roland Bynum, Executive Producer
RB/H Productions
Portland, OR

Endless Ellen

by Wayne Friday

When gay rights activists, openly gay celebrities, closeted actors and straight celebrity friends of gays and lesbians met in Los Angeles recently at the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) Media Awards banquet, the talk centered on the April 30 episode of ABC's *Ellen*, when the title character, Ellen Morgan (Ellen DeGeneres), will, at long last, come out as a lesbian. The event was attended by celebrities like Cher (she came to show support for her "lovely lesbian daughter" Chastity Bono), Gregory Peck, Ed McMahon, Kato Kaelin, Tracey Ullman, and a host of other Tinseltown luminaries. Appearing at the GLAAD soiree, DeGeneres was moved to tears by the three-minute ovation she received and provoked laughter by commenting to the overflow crowd, "What better way to change the show and do something positive than by having my character come out? I immediately started doing research for the character—there are so many people to consult!"

Last week, as ABC television executives were still pondering how to handle the controversial episode, it was announced that the lesbian chief executive of a Redwood City high-tech firm had donated \$225,000 to the Human Rights Campaign to be used to buy television time for a PSA to promote gay rights. The ad, which depicts the reaction of co-workers to a lesbian who has been fired because of her sexuality, is designed to build support in Congress for the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), which would ban such discrimination nationwide. Currently, 41 states do not have laws that prevent job discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Jessica Stevens, president and CEO of Telegen Corp., is the woman who gave the HRC the funds for the 30-second ad, but her donation and the ad itself have created almost as much commotion as Ellen's closet door swinging open. ABC immediately rejected the ad (as have some of its biggest stations), saying that they have a policy of not accepting "controversial issue advertising." More than 30 ABC stations, including those in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Atlanta, D.C., Denver, Phoenix and Memphis, have signed on to air the ad.

Reaction to ABC's action by gay and lesbian activists has been mixed. One respected local activist told the B.A.R. that "I'm, of course, disappointed at ABC for their stand on the ad. However, I have to give that network high marks for having the courage to air the episode itself."

Ms. Stevens told reporters this week that "I've had friends who have been fired because they're gay. It's so basically wrong, it's hard to believe. But most people don't know it can happen." Stevens added that "I told myself long ago that when I make it, this is not going to be allowed anymore—that's what this contribution is about."

Politics and people

Some of state Senator **Quentin Kopp's** friends and political allies are now talking to him about a run for state insurance commissioner against GOP incumbent **Chuck Quackenbush**. Kopp's



Jerry Falwell is now referring to Ellen DeGeneres (above) as "Ellen DeGenerate" and calling for a boycott of her show.

heart is probably more in the attorney general's race, but with East Bay state Senator **Bill Lockyer** already with more than \$2 million in his campaign war chest, Quentin is said to be definitely looking at Quackenbush's job.

I ran into **Frank Jordan** pushing a cart at Costco last week. The former mayor is hard at work giving speeches on the rubber-chicken circuit across the country. (Ex-mayor, ex-police chief, the guy's definitely in demand!) Jordan might not have been as politically savvy as **Dianne Feinstein**, as natural a politician as **Art Agnos**, and definitely not as flashy and exciting as **Willie Brown**, but he is a decent, honorable man. They don't come any nicer.

That powerful House member who some D.C. gay and lesbian activists have been waiting to "out" up and got hitched last weekend. Guess that means he was straight all along! Oh well, we wish the missus all the best and the happy couple a long and fruitful marriage!

America's favorite celebrity AIDS fighter, **Elizabeth Taylor**, is doing "quite well, thank you," according to a local friend of mine who spoke with her by phone Sunday. Taylor, recovering from brain-tumor surgery, says she will "definitely—most definitely!" attend a May 15 Cannes Film Festival Against AIDS benefit, adding that "this war is far from over. There's too much to be done yet before we get the long-awaited cure."

One reader writes: "President **Bill Clinton** slipped and injured his knee while on vacation. Isn't it about time the Republicans called for a special prosecutor?" Another opines: "The president appeared on TV today in a wheelchair. Isn't he carrying this FDR thing a bit too far?"

Why doesn't Modesto Congressman **Gary Condit** stop playing games and simply join the Republican Party, where he belongs?

Speaking of which, talk show host **Michael Reagan**, the eldest son of the former president and a "lifelong Republican," told his listeners last week that he has had it with **Newt Gingrich** and Co. and has left the Republican Party and is now a registered Independent. No word on how Pops or Stepmommy Nancy feel about the move.

In D.C., rumormongers are spreading the word that House Speaker **Gingrich** will step down from his post before the end of the year and be replaced by Rep. **Dick Army** (R-Texas), an ultraconservative who makes the Newtster look, well, reasonable. Dick Army (love the name: say it again!), you may remember, is the same Dick who caused waves a while back when he "accidentally" referred to **Barney Frank** as "Barney Fag," which occasioned several witty rejoinders from the clever Mr. Frank.

A PSA: In case you've been wondering, the IRS has ruled that taxpayers cannot deduct the cost of marijuana as a medical expense. Just a bit of useful info as April 15 approaches.

In Washington, even some Republicans are moaning that **Jim Nicholson**, the new chair of the GOP National Committee who was elected by backers of **Ralph Reed's** Christian Coalition, is now beholden to Reed and his followers and takes directions only from them.

When President Clinton nominates San Francisco U.S. Attorney **Michael Yamaguchi** as the new federal judge in San Jose (he was recommended by Senator **Dianne Feinstein**) later this spring, he will become the first Asian-American federal judge in Bay Area history.

I'm sure he misses his old job, but **Arlo Smith**, spotted at the Hall of Justice last week (yup, doing jury duty), looked healthier and more fit than he did for many years while serving as SF's district attorney.

Overheard at City Hall: "Roberta Achtenberg working for the Chamber of Commerce? What next?"

Republicans in the know are telling me that Rep. **Sonny "Laugh at Me" Bono** (R-Palm Springs) has decided against a run for lieutenant governor next year. However, Chastity's uncool parent—you'll never catch him at a GLAAD function—is said to be eyeing **Barbara Boxer's** job. Personally, we believe a 20-year moratorium ought to be placed on performers going into politics—and vice versa. And don't even get me started on ex-jocks!

Have a happy Easter everyone! May Monsieur Lapin bless you with a bountiful basket! ▼



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Sons of beaches

by Beth Elliott

From the Girl Scout cookie box (yes, as peddled by one of my co-workers' daughters): "Girls need to develop skills that will enable them to perform up to their potential once they enter the adult world. Research tells us that one of the best ways to help them to do that is to provide them with the opportunity to share learning and fun in a supportive all-girl environment during their developing years." And maybe to make sure we continue to perform up to our potential, how about some "supportive all-girl environments" for our adult years, too?

There was a rumor as fascinating as it was unfounded floating around the Dovre Club on St. Patrick's Day. Women's Building: in need of seismic retrofit. Irish community: full of construction workers. You can fill in the blanks, to the sound of backs being scratched.

The arrival of Amateur Night, Ethnic Stereotyping Division means spring is right around the corner. (New Year's Eve is Amateur Night for alcohol consumption; St. Paddy's Day is when the amateurs drink without pacing and call it Irish culture. Yecch!) And darned if we didn't get some pleasant Equinox weather. It was time for one of those lunch in the park runs.

Execution: call ahead to Young's Cafe at Sacramento and Kearny. Walk up Kearny to pick up the barbecued pork fried noodles (with bok choy - yum!), cross the street to the Quong Fat Market to pick up a Green Death (Rainier Ale - only American macrobrew worth a damn. Hey, gotta maintain that reputation for a bad attitude, eh?). Head toward the Bay on Clay. Cut through the Redwood Park at the foot of the Transamerica Pyramid. The sculptures there are so cute: cast bronze leaping frogs on lily pads in the fountain, and the seemingly gravity-defying "Puddle Jumpers" - half a dozen skipping and jumping children.

After looking right, jaywalk across Washington and duck up Hotaling Alley, which runs behind the Belli building and the old Black Cat bar. At the corner of Jackson is the building that once housed Hotaling's Whiskey, which inspired the post-Earthquake and Fire (1906, duh) verse that asked whether the destruction was really the result of divine displeasure with sybaritic San Francisco if Hotaling's was spared while churches burned. Here you're in Jackson Square, amidst some of the oldest standing buildings in The City.

Urban oasis

Two blocks toward the Bay on Jackson brings you to Sidney G. Walton Park, that urban oasis on the fringe of the advertising ghetto. I entered the circle of trees (poplars?) near the mosaic obelisk, hoisted my tush up onto the Sidney G. Walton Memorial Rock, and had a restful repast. Return trip: loop past the "Four Seasons" fountain (whose columns mimic the tree circle) and the bust of Georgia O'Keeffe, then up the stairs and across the walkway over Jackson Street. Past the "Chrysanthemum" fountain by the Alcoa Building and over another walkway into Embarcadero Center. Then west and down a walkway leading to Sansome Street, and back to Beth's Big Room o' Computers.

Yep, nothing like getting outdoors. Only the outdoors is getting paved. The floods we had in the Central Valley this winter? Not only are we losing good farmland to "scattershot suburban sprawl" (the San Joaquin Valley is now growing faster than the LA basin), but engineering "fixes" are making the damage to housing worse: there's less open ground to soak up the winter rains. (And you wonder why I go on about overpopulation.)

It's not just here, either (though our Central Valley is at the top of the American Farmland Trust's list of endangered primo agricultural land). On the east side of Seattle, people are paving not only the flood plains with new housing, but the hillsides as well. Cutting forests silts up the streams, adding to flooding problems there.

Newjerseyization

On the East Coast, they have a word for the engineering process that replaces natural beach with riprap that prevents beaches from restoring themselves: Newjerseyization. We pay for it, too: taxes on every working and purchasing person in the U.S. finances the Army Corps of Engineers' multi-million-dollar destruction of the

beaches. We pay again when houses foolishly built right on the beach (unlike the summer houses of the last century) get undone by winter storms or hurricanes. Just like we do when the suburbs covering up good farmland get flooded. Jesse Helms, for example, voted to increase Federal Emergency Management Agency funding, calling passage of the increase "a sizable victory."

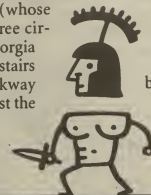
Beaches, it seems, are a coastline's natural defense. They roll with storms' punches, giving back to the waves the sand the dunes have stockpiled. As that sand gets carried out and deposited on the ocean floor, the beach flattens and waves break further out, lessening erosion. After

the storms, the tides gradually carry the sand back to the beach. And so, "protecting" beaches by building them up actually destroys them - and the idiots who built on them then expect the rest of us to bail them out.

Last year's federal Farmland Protection Policy Act provides funds to communities to purchase development rights to farmland (and began phasing out crop subsidies). This enables families to keep farming and retrieve equity without subdividing. But sprawling, overpopulating humans can get mighty snippy about the farmers and ranchers who were on the land before them.

There's park land in Rockville in Solano County that one family has been ranching since the 1850s, and now some activists want the cows removed - for ecology - even though the native plants are flourishing. People want to be fed, but they don't want food-producing activities. They want to save the forests, but want wood to build new housing for all the extra people they want here without logging. Water wars are kicking up as Nevada and Arizona demand their Colorado River water quotas back from Southern California.

"Living in balance with the earth" demands limiting population, including an immigration moratorium. Dare to be consistent. ▼



Sapphistication

COMMUNITY NEWS

Increased visibility



Byron McQuarries

Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action (LGADDA) co-chair Ron Hypolite (l) presented a certificate of appreciation to Bay Area Reporter staff writer Cynthia Laird at the group's March 20 meeting. Laird was honored for her efforts to expand the press coverage of lesbians and gay men of color.

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Young, gifted and gay



Representatives from gay youth groups, including COLAGE, Larkin Street Youth Center, LYVE, LYRIC and AQU25A, receive the Community Well-Being Award at the 23rd Annual Cable Car Awards March 22 at the Gift Center.

Ecce homologue

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

Several lines of research, including family, twin, and molecular-genetic studies, suggest that a person's sexual orientation is in part inherited. But if "gay genes" exist, how come they haven't been eliminated during human evolution? People who are "genetically gay" would be expected to have fewer descendants, so their genes would die out. But there's no evidence that homosexuality has become less common over the ages.

A number of theories have been put forward to explain this apparent paradox. First, it's been pointed out that gays and lesbians do often have children, either out of pressure to conform, or simply out of a desire to be biological parents. Still, it seems likely that, over the span of human evolution, a lack of sexual interest in the other sex would in general have led to fewer children. For males especially, reproduction is a highly competitive affair in which sexual attraction is the prime motivator.

Another possibility is that gay genes do tend to die out, but they are replaced by new, spontaneously-arising mutations. This is known to be how certain disease-causing genes (such as the gene for hemophilia B) are kept in the gene pool. It is unlikely, however, that this could be the explanation for the persistence of "gay genes," simply because homosexuality is so common.

A third theory depends on the fact that, for most genes, we carry two copies, one on each of two "homologous" chromosomes. Sometimes a particular variant of a gene is harmful to a person's reproductive success when it is present in two copies, but beneficial when present in only one copy. A well-known example is the gene for sickle-cell anemia: having two copies causes sickle-cell disease, but having one copy confers protection against malaria. Similarly, it is possible that having two copies of a "gay gene" makes a person gay and lowers their reproductive success, but having one copy has some benefit that helps to keep the gene in the gene pool. What that benefit might be, we don't know.

A variant on this theory concerns genes on the X chromosome. (You'll remember that Dean Hamer and his colleagues at the National Cancer Institute reported a possible "gay gene" on this chromosome.) Men have only one X chromosome, but women have two. It's possible that this gene has some benefit in women that outweighs its reproductive cost in men. For example, if the gene promotes sexual attraction to men, then in women it might actually increase reproductive success, making them, as it were, hyper-heterosexual. As Robert Trivers, an evolutionary biologist at the University of California, Santa Cruz, has pointed out, the fact that women have two X chromosomes and men only one means that, over time, the survival benefit of a gene on this chromosome in women outweighs its effect on men.

Finally, there are theories that explain gay genes by saying that they promote the reproduction of a gay person's close relatives. Let's say that a woman, by virtue of her "gay genes," has one child fewer than she otherwise would have had, but she uses her freed-up energy and resources to help her siblings rear a total of two more children than they otherwise would have had. Since her siblings share about 50% of her genes, those two extra nephews or nieces are about as "good" (in evolutionary terms) as one child of her own. Thus, seemingly altruistic behavior towards one's brothers and sisters could, in the hard-nosed world of evolutionary psychology, be as selfish as reproducing oneself.

These theories allow for the possibility of interactions between genes and the environment. For example, if a boy had a childhood accident that left him smaller or weaker than his peers, he might have a lesser chance of fathering children himself. In this case, it might make good evolutionary sense for him to devote himself to helping his siblings rear children, since he has little to lose.

One problem with this kind of theory is that it doesn't really explain homosexuality, it only explains the lack of heterosexuality. Why, in other words, should gay

men spend so much time on gay sex — time that, according to these theories, would be better spent baby-sitting their nephews and nieces?

None of these theories are overwhelmingly persuasive. It may be that when the genes themselves are identified, their survival value will be better understood. In the meantime, I like to think that evolution has created us simply because we're so fabulous. ▼

Queer Science

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well-known for his research on the "gay brain." He is the author of *Queer Science* (MIT Press, 1996) and the forthcoming gay techno-thriller, *Albrick's Gold* (Richard Kasak/Masquerade Books). He is also the co-founder of the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. He can be reached care of the B.A.R. or at SLeVay@aol.com.



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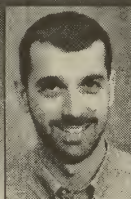
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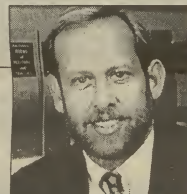
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Reviewers say it's time to break through TV's no-kiss barrier

by Don Romesburg,
GLAAD/SF media resource
center manager

Just prior to the March 19 airing of the Greg Louganis biographical made-for-TV movie *Breaking the Surface* on USA Network, a host of reviewers lamented the omission of any real male same-sex intimacy, announcing its time had come.

In the March 19 *Boston Globe*, reviewer Renee Graham says, "The same old tired rules apply when it comes to portraying a same-sex relationship— you won't see Greg and Tom exchange a kiss. But the network doesn't hesitate to show the violent aspects of their relationship. It's as if there's an unwritten 'You can kill him, but you can't kiss him' policy when it comes to homosexual relationships. When is television going to finally grow up?" *USA Today's* March 19 review notes that networks are as "squeamish as any commercial entity about same-sex physical contact that goes beyond a hug. When Greg pulls a knife on one boyfriend and is viciously assaulted by another, that of course is fair game to exploit." The *San Francisco Chronicle* review from the same day echoes the same sentiment. "If you're looking for a little voyeuristic

thrill in the gay romances of a famous athlete," TV critic John Carman says, "*Breaking the Surface* delivers nothing stronger than comradely hugs." As mentioned in the February 28 GLAAD Alert, GLAAD met with USA Network representatives over a month ago, who were eager for input about *Breaking the Surface*. The meeting yielded assurances from USA

that in the future, representations of gay and lesbian relationships would be more realistic. USA representative Ian Valentine confirmed this, saying, "After our meeting, I came away feeling that we could have been more adventurous [about same-sex intimacy],

and next time, we will be." He also pledged to work with GLAAD in the future.

The widespread critical recognition of the obvious lack of same-sex intimacy in *Breaking the Surface* is both encouraging and hopefully part of a broader trend towards a more accurate portrayal of our lives on television. A gay male same-sex kiss is something yet unseen on network entertainment television. Along with GLAAD's efforts to work within the entertainment industry to educate media professionals on the importance of accurate portrayals, these television critics make a significant contribution by pointing out that the *Breaking the Surface* omission harms the authenticity of the program.

Please commend the *Boston Globe*, *USA Today* and the *San Francisco Chronicle* for their astute critical commentary, and affirm USA Network's commitment to more accurate representation in the future.

Contact: *Boston Globe*, P.O. Box 2378, Boston, MA 02107, fax: 617.929.2098, e-mail: letter@globe.com; *USA Today*, 1000 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22229, fax: 703.247.3108, e-mail: editor@usatoday.com; William German, Editor, *San Francisco Chronicle*, 901 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103-2988, fax: 415.543.7708, e-mail: chronletters@sfgate.com; Ian Valentine, USA Networks International, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020.

Tired and inspired wires

Rev. Lou Sheldon of the anti-gay radical religious group Traditional Values Coalition has attacked a number of bills designed to protect lesbian and gay youth, and while United Press International (UPI) copy did little more than rehash Sheldon's press release, the Associated Press's (AP) copy actually examines the substance of Sheldon's claims.

On March 17, UPI's item restated Sheldon's belief that the California Assembly is considering bills that "might force the hiring of homosexuals by religious nonprofit groups and the advocacy of their lifestyle in public schools. He [Sheldon] said [Assembly Pro Tem Sheila] Kuehl's legislation would allow a teacher, student or administrator to sue for civil damages if they believe they are adversely affected by their sexual orientation." Meanwhile, the March 18 AP story on the same press conference noted Sheldon's claims that the bills, quoting

Sheldon directly, "promote homosexuality." Then the AP reporter includes a response from Kuehl. "Sheldon was particularly critical of Assembly Bill 101, which he said would bar teachers from publicly criticizing homosexuality or advocating 'sexual reorientation' therapies," the AP item continues. "AB101 is a bill which basically criminalizes First Amendment rights," Sheldon said. "The AP then gives a counter from Kuehl. It notes, 'Asked, however, whether he thought it was right to bar teachers from speaking positively about homosexuality, Sheldon believed that was proper. 'You do not want to take an 8-, 9-, 10- or 11-year-old child and teach them to self-identify with homosexuality,' he said. Sheldon said he did not see any contradiction with his earlier defense of First Amendment rights."

While the UPI item created bias through a failure to go beyond hate-monger Sheldon's own hype, the AP story sought balance by following up each absurd statement made by Sheldon with a clarification from Kuehl, and following up Sheldon's own statements with his response to a challenging question from a reporter.

Please thank AP for a balanced and fair article, and encourage UPI to do a little more legwork to make items more objective.

Contact: Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, Fifth Floor, New York, NY 10020-1666, fax: 212.621.7520, e-mail: rgersh@ap.org; Tobin Beck, Editor-In-Chief, United Press International, 1400 "I" Street, Washington, DC 20005, fax: 202.898.8133.

Relativity reincarnated in Monday move

In the face of certain cancellation, ABC's critically acclaimed but low-rated *Relativity* will move to Monday nights at 8 p.m. for three weeks beginning this Monday, March 31. The show features Lisa Edelstein as Rhonda Roth, one of the most realistic and well-developed lesbian or gay characters on television.

Please congratulate ABC for giving this quality program a second chance, and encourage them to extend the program through the end of the season.

Contact: Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067, phone: 310.557.7777, fax: 310.557.7679, e-mail: abcaudr@ccabc.com.

Watch the GLAAD Media Awards Cybercast!

If you missed the star-studded 8th Annual GLAAD Media Awards in Los Angeles, which was cybercast live during the March 16 event, you'll have a few more chances to check it out before the presentation of the New York Media Awards. Pride Media and CompuServe are hosting both events on their Web site at <http://world.compuserve.com/glaad.html>. Replays of the Los Angeles awards will be on March 25, 27 and 28 leading up to the live cybercast of the New York ceremony at 7:30 p.m. EST on March 31. ▼

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- ♦ **Good Friday**
- 6:00-11:00 a.m. Watch at the Alter
- 12:00 noon Stations of the Cross with
St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church,
at St. Cyprian's, Turk and Lyon Streets
- 7:00 p.m. Solemn Liturgy
- ♦ **Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil**
- 10:00 a.m. Office of the Lord's Burial
- 9:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter
- ♦ **Easter Day**
- 7:45 a.m. Martins
- 8:00 a.m. Mass
- 10:00 a.m. Mass with Festal Procession

Bethany United Methodist Church
1268 Sanchez at Clipper ♦ 647-8393
BethanyUMC@aol.com
The Rev. Karen Oliveto, Pastor

- ♦ **Good Friday**
- 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service by Candlelight
- ♦ **Easter Day**
- 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
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- 12:15 p.m. Community Brunch
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938 Valencia Street at Liberty ♦ 826-2641
CPA1203@aol.com
The Rev. Douglas M. Donley, Pastor

- ♦ **Easter Day**
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- 10:00 a.m. Worship at 938 Valencia Street
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- ♦ **Good Friday** - 12 Noon
- ♦ **Easter Day** - 11:00 a.m.

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- 7:00 p.m. Passion Play
- ♦ **Good Friday**
- Self Guided Stations of the Cross
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12:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.
- ♦ **Easter Day**
- 10:30 a.m. Easter service of celebration
and baptism
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(between Dolores & Guerrero, 25th & 26th)
In Noe Valley ♦ HolyinSF@aol.com
The Rev. Ammand Krefit

- ♦ **Good Friday**
- 12 Noon & 6:00 p.m.
- ♦ **Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil**
- 8:00 p.m.
- ♦ **Easter Day**
- 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
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of San Francisco**

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- ♦ **Maundy Thursday**
- 7:00 p.m. Commemoration of the Lord's
Supper and Tenebrae
- ♦ **Good Friday**
- 12:00 noon Reading of the Passion
- 7:00 p.m. Queer Passion Perspectives:
Lesbian and gay Meditation on the Seven
Last Words of Christ featuring music from
Jesus Christ Superstar
- ♦ **Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil**
- 7:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter
- ♦ **Easter Day**
- 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. "We are Risen!"
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- ♦ **Maundy Thursday**
- 7:30 p.m. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
- ♦ **Good Friday**
- 12:00 noon Stations of the Cross
- 1:00 & 7:30 p.m. Celebration of the
Lord's Passion
- ♦ **Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil**
- 7:30 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter
- ♦ **Easter Day**
- 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Mass

Noe Valley Ministry - Presbyterian Church
1021 Sanchez Street ♦ 282-2317
Interim Pastor Joan Huff

- ♦ **Maundy Thursday**
- 7:00 p.m. Communion & Tenebrae Service
with foot washing
- ♦ **Easter Day**
- 9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt & Brunch
- 8:00 a.m. Resurrection Celebration with
Communion - Bring Fresh Flowers

St. Francis Lutheran Church
152 Church Street ♦ 213-2635
Pastors: James DeLange, Ruth Frost,
Michael Hiller, and Phyllis Zillhart

- ♦ **Maundy Thursday**
- 7:00 p.m. Worship & Stripping of the Alter
- ♦ **Good Friday**
- 12:00 noon Good Friday Liturgy
- 7:00 p.m. Orchestra & Choir
The Seven Last Words by Heinrich Schutz
- ♦ **Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil**
- 9:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter
- ♦ **Easter Day**
- 11:00 a.m. The Resurrection of Our Lord
Festival Eucharist

St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church
1661 Fifteenth Street @ Julian ♦ 861-1436
The Rev. David Norgard, Rector

- ♦ **Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil**
- 9:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter
- ♦ **Easter Day**
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- ♦ **Good Friday**
- 12:00 noon Worship Service
- ♦ **Easter Day**
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- 7:30 p.m.
- ♦ **Good Friday**
- 12:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross
- 7:30 p.m. Liturgy of Good Friday
- ♦ **Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil**
- 7:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter
- ♦ **Easter Day**
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- ♦ **Good Friday**
- 7:30 p.m. Taize Service: Prayer Around the Cross
- ♦ **Easter Day**
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- 6:00 p.m. Supper & Service
- ♦ **Good Friday**
- 7:30 p.m. Taize Worship
- ♦ **Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil**
- 7:00 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter
- ♦ **Easter Day**
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- 12:30 p.m. Celebration of the Resurrection

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- ♦ **Good Friday**
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- ♦ **Holy Saturday**
- 9:00 a.m. Chapel Service
- ♦ **Easter Day**
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- 10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist and Brunch

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BAY AREA REPORTER

Supreme Court hears Internet decency case

by Liz Highleyman

On March 19 the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in *ACLU vs Reno*, the appeal of the so-called Communications Decency Act (CDA). Both proponents and opponents of the measure held demonstrations in the freezing rain outside the court building during the 70-minute proceedings.

The CDA, passed by Congress in February 1996, would make it illegal to transmit by computer any "comment, request, suggestion, proposal, image or other communication" which might be judged "indecent" or "patently offensive." The legislation — which carries a penalty of up to two years in prison — would limit all types of sexually explicit communication on the Internet, potentially including AIDS prevention education materials and information about gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender sexuality.

The CDA was challenged by two groups of plaintiffs, which included librarians, publishers, computer companies, individual Internet users, and groups including the Queer Resources Directory, the Safer Sex Pages, Critical Path AIDS Project, Planned Parenthood, Stop Prisoner Rape, and the National Writers Union.

In June 1996, a three-judge appeals court panel in Philadelphia unanimously ruled that the CDA was an unconstitutional restriction of free speech. Justice Stewart Dalzell stated that "just as the strength of the Internet is chaos, so the strength of our liberty depends upon the chaos and cacophony of the unfettered speech the First Amendment protects." The judges ruled that the law may not interfere with the right of adults to access certain types of material, even if those materials might not be appropriate for chil-

dren. Unlike "obscenity," which is legally defined, "indecent" and "patently offensive" have no legal definition and are open to broad interpretation; Dalzell stated in the ruling that "Congress may not regulate indecency on the Internet at all."

The Department of Justice (DoJ) appealed the verdict to the Supreme Court in July, arguing that the CDA was necessary to protect children from the dangers of online pornography.

The Supreme Court typically does not hear new evidence in a case, but rather rules on decisions handed down by lower courts. Justice Antonin Scalia noted that the CDA case represented a "distinctive form of First Amendment argument unlike others" because it covers a new communications medium.

Deputy Solicitor General Seth Waxman presented the case for the government. In a brief filed prior to the oral testimony, the DoJ argued that the CDA actually enhances the First Amendment right to receive information, since "much of the Internet's potential as an educational and informational resource will be wasted if people are unwilling to avail themselves of its benefits because they do not want their children harmed by exposure to patently offensive sexually explicit material."

Kids-only level

Comparing the Internet to television, the DoJ brief continued, "Just as it was constitutional for the FCC to channel indecent broadcasts to times of the day when children most likely would not be exposed to them, so Congress could channel indecent communications to places on the Internet where children are unlikely to obtain them" — an idea that has been referred to as "cyberzoning." Waxman stated that in the absence of the CDA, the Internet could "give every child a free pass to every adult movie the-

ater or bookstore in the country."

Lead plaintiff's attorney Bruce Ennis presented testimony next, stating that the CDA would limit adults to "reading or viewing only what is appropriate for children."

Both attorneys were questioned by the Justices. Justice David Souter expressed concern about whether parents could be imprisoned for allowing their children to view indecent material. Justice Steven Breyer asked whether teenagers who discuss sexual experiences on the Internet could be considered "guilty of a federal crime." Waxman answered that this possibility was "a small price to pay" to protect children from access to explicit material such as *Penthouse* magazine. Justices William Rehnquist and Antonin Scalia appeared most sympathetic to the government's case, with Scalia stating that in any context it is lawful for the government to require that pornographic material be kept away from children.

Several justices asked about the feasibility of determining the age of computer users. Current technology does not allow content providers to verify the age of those accessing their materials, although commercial services may require a credit card number. Scalia wondered whether it was "possible that this statute is unconstitutional now but could be [constitutional] in four or five years" as new age-verification and filtering technology becomes available.

The court has the option of voiding the CDA entirely or crafting a narrower ruling. Some legal scholars have predicted that the Supreme Court will uphold the Philadelphia court's verdict. Harvard University law professor Laurence Tribe has said he is "very optimistic" that "most of the legislation will be held unconstitutional."

A decision in the case is expected in late June or early July. ▼

ACT UP demo

◀ page 1

Thorne said New York City police were brutal in their treatment of the activists — and that he has a black eye and a laceration that runs from his forehead to the center of his scalp. He also he continues to suffer "bad headaches" from the head injury.

"Civil disobedience is a right guaranteed under the Constitution. I felt I had a right to be there

and the police acted completely inappropriately. I don't think people with AIDS and their advocates should be treated like this," he said.

Zold was also slugged in the face by a police official named Hale during the incident.

"When we demanded badge numbers," Zold told the *Bay Area Reporter*, "they said he doesn't have a badge because he's a chief."

Misconduct complaints will be filed in connection with the incident. ▼

Another sad milestone

United Press International

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation predicted that California would record its 100,000th diagnosed case of AIDS Monday, April 24, based on current infection rates and statistics kept by the state's Department of Health Services Office of AIDS. The number of Californians with the disease has nearly doubled since March 1993, when the health department reported 55,519 diagnosed cases.

In addition to an increasing number of people being diagnosed with AIDS, SFAF spokesperson Derek Gordon noted that people who have the disease are now living longer. Subsequently, the demand for AIDS services and treatments also has increased.

Gordon said, "As Californians confront the reality of 100,000 cases of AIDS in our state, we must also confront the many new challenges associated with caring for people living with HIV and AIDS." ▼

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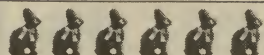
What happens if I take less than the amount of medication my doctor prescribed ? If I skip a dose, can I take two doses to make up for it ? Could the rash I've developed be a side effect of my medication ? I'm on vacation and forgot one of my prescriptions — what do I do now ? Will the side effects I'm experiencing go away in time ? When I feel better, can I stop taking my medication ? Will hot weather effect the stability of my medication capsules ? Should non-nucleoside RTIs be used in conjunction with a protease inhibitor ? With many prescriptions to keep track of, how can I remember to refill them every time ? Is being on a "drug cocktail" better for me ? Will my insurance cover my new medication ? Is it safe to store my medications together ? How can I best schedule my medications to take them as prescribed ? Is there any way to relieve the nausea my medication gives me ? Who can help me submit my insurance paperwork so I can get my medication costs reimbursed ? When I feel better, can I stop taking my medication ? Which over-the-counter medications are safe to take with my prescriptions ? I've heard that herbal therapies can interact with certain medications — are the ones I'm taking safe ? How do the new protease inhibitors work compared to other antiretrovirals ?

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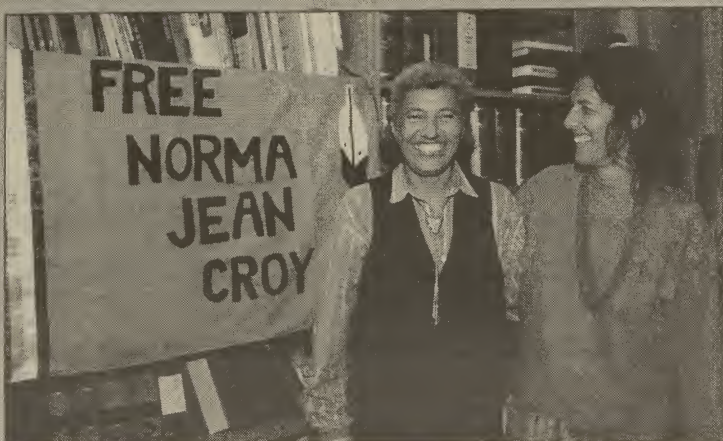
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Free at last!



On February 7, Norma Jean Croy was released from a California state prison after 19 years behind bars. The openly lesbian Croy, seen here on the left with her lawyer Diana Samuelson, celebrated her newfound freedom at a March 21 Embarcadero party. Samuelson convinced a federal court that Croy's original trial for murder was grossly flawed due to racism.

JANE PHILLIPS/CELEBRITY

Unleash the beast for a good cause PAWS' 5K K-9 run set for April 13

by Cynthia Laird

Hey, all you canine-lovers out there, there's an event coming up that will help get yourself and your dog in shape while raising money for a unique agency. That's right, it's PAWS' second annual "Doggie Fun Run" scheduled for Sunday, April 13 in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park.

If it's anything like last year's event, hundreds of dogs and their owners will get into the spirit of helping the agency that helps people living with AIDS care for their companion animals.

"Last year we had about 250 people and about 150 dogs; almost every person had a dog with them," PAWS Executive Director Lisa Lunsford told the B.A.R. "There will be entertainment, and the Bay Area Raw Raws [now officially called Cheer SF] will be cheering people on."

The fun run is not a race; runners will start every 15 minutes. There are, however, competitions for best dog/human look-alike; best doggie costume for a human; loudest barking pair; and most athletic pair.

The fun run is simple enough: runners — the humans, that is — collect donations from sponsors. For example, someone who contributes \$2 per kilometer would donate a total of \$10; it's a 5km route.

Advance registration for the one-of-a-kind event takes place through Monday, April 7. Those who register in advance will receive T-shirts prior to the run. Entries received by the deadline will also be entered in a drawing for prizes, organizers said.

Organizers said all donations need to be collected by the time registration forms are submitted. Participants must also sign a release prior to the event; there are also a number of requirements for dogs taking part in the run.

Those who do not make the advance deadline can bring completed sponsor sheets, collected donations, and the release to the fun run.

There are a variety of prizes for participants. Those who collect \$50 or more in donations will receive a t-shirt and doggie bandanna; those who collect \$100 or more will get the t-shirt, doggie bandanna, a Frisbee, and a PAWS

baseball cap.

Individuals who collect \$400 or more will not only receive the above items, they will be listed in the agency's newsletter and be entered in a special drawing for additional prizes.

PAWS offers a variety of services such as pet food, help with veterinary care, dog walking, and litter box cleaning. The agency also provides information on preventing diseases that can be transmitted from pets to people who are immunosuppressed.

PAWS staff also stressed that although the group provides services to many different kinds of pets, including cats and fish, the fun run is for dogs and humans only. ▼

For official rules and registration materials, stop by the PAWS office, 539 Castro Street, during business hours or call the fun run hotline (415) 241-1463. The event starts at 8 a.m. and continues through 10 a.m. at Marx Meadow in Golden Gate Park. The meadow is on Kennedy Drive near where 25th Avenue enters the northern edge of the park.

Proposed coffeehouse moratorium to be topic at supes' hearing next week

by Cynthia Laird

Supervisor Leslie Katz's proposed legislation regarding a moratorium on coffeehouses and juice bars in the Castro District and Upper Market neighborhoods will be the topic of a public hearing next Thursday, April 3 at City Hall. The board's Housing and Neighborhood Services Committee is holding the hearing.

In response to community concerns about the influx of fast food and self-service restaurants,

Katz ordered the city attorney's office to draft legislation to address the issue late last year.

In its current form, the proposal calls for a moratorium that will prevent coffeehouses and juice bars from moving into the neighborhoods during the next 18 months.

"It is important that the Castro has a mix of businesses," Katz said. "A moratorium on coffeehouses and juice bars will help ensure that the Castro does not continue being inundated with these types of businesses, which often replace non-food-related busi-

nesses that serve the needs of residents of the Castro."

She said the 18-month moratorium will provide the merchants associations, residents, and other interested individuals with an opportunity to engage in long-term planning so that a well-considered plan can be developed and implemented. ▼

The hearing starts at 10 a.m. in the fourth floor committee room at City Hall, 401 Van Ness Avenue.

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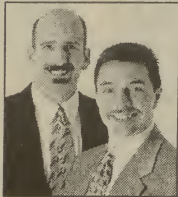
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The end of a lesbian era

Brick Hut shut in Berkeley

by Cynthia Laird

It has been an anchor in the East Bay lesbian community for 22 years, giving women a safe place to eat and meet, and perhaps more importantly, giving employment opportunities to hundreds of lesbians. That anchor sank at 2 p.m. on Monday, March 24, when the Brick Hut Cafe in Berkeley closed its doors.

Owners Joan Antonuccio and Sharon E. Davenport will soon file court documents to convert the cafe's Chapter 11 bankruptcy to Chapter 7, which is liquidation and dissolution of the business. The cafe they started in 1975 at a

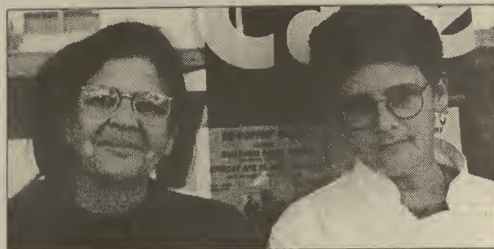
tiny place on Ashby Street in Berkeley would become part of lesbian history.

Every table in the Brick Hut was full this past Sunday as patrons came for a wake of sorts. People were standing in the doorway waiting. The predominantly lesbian and female crowd was collectively enjoying a last meal of sorts. Shortly before 3 p.m., several rounds of applause went up from guests and employees alike as they said their goodbyes. The waitpersons scurried across the main dining area. The cashier placed a large stack of business cards near the register; there wouldn't be much use for them after Monday.

High overhead

Antonuccio and Davenport, partners in the business from the beginning, were outside in back of the restaurant. They were quietly talking with some other women.

"In the 1990s you have to have the box full, and you have to fill it every day. Joan and I have never been about making money," Davenport said in an interview.



Sharon Davenport and Joan Antonuccio

"The truth is, we're bereft, we're grieving," Antonuccio told the B.A.R. "And we're angry. We wanted to pass it on."

Financial troubles started brewing last September, when Davenport and Antonuccio filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection for the restaurant. The debt continued to mount. Last week, their bankruptcy attorney said they were out of options; the doors would have to close — permanently.

Davenport said that "incredibly high debt load and extremely high overhead" proved to be a fatal combination. Antonuccio said their debt is in excess of \$235,000. "It's probably much closer to \$300,000."

Antonuccio and Davenport said they kept their 30 full- and part-time employees apprised of the cafe's situation from the beginning; there were no surprises when the owners broke the final chapter to them just over a week ago.

"We told them the very minute we knew, and everyone burst into tears," Antonuccio said. "They knew we were struggling."

On a positive note, she said some customers and other local merchants have offered jobs to the now-jobless Brick Hut employees.

No ordinary restaurant

"So many meaningful experiences were shared at the Brick Hut," Tamara Griffith told the B.A.R. "Before I started working here, during the 1970s, I was watching the stuff, [lesbians] being out, and happy, and strong."

Griffith worked at the cafe for about ten years and did a variety of jobs. Now, she joined her former bosses as they "processed" — to use Antonuccio's description. After all, she added, they're les-

bians: they have to "process."

"Joan and Sharon have given so much. Keeping the Brick Hut open has never been easy," Griffith said. "They taught so many viable job skills to so many women in the community. It's been a teaching job. What we owe Joan and Sharon, we have no words for."

Literally hundreds of women have spent part of their lives working at the Brick Hut. It was a nurturing environment for lesbians as well as for women who were not gay-identified. Men, straight and gay, have worked at the cafe too, Antonuccio said.

But the restaurant has always been known as a place where lesbians could go to eat, hear the latest gossip, and cruise the women. Davenport and Antonuccio said they've always seen the Brick Hut as a haven for lesbians, as well as an information center for gay activists.

"We strive to enhance the ability of women to effect change in their work environment; empowering them to be self-motivated and self-expressive," the owners stated in the company's employee handbook.

Closing thoughts

Antonuccio said she doesn't know what she'll do now that the Brick Hut has closed. Immediately, she plans to spend several weeks resting and reflecting on things before she decides what to do.

She pulled out Mary Watkins' 1978 album *Something Moving*, with a song entitled "Brick Hut" that Watkins wrote for the restaurant. On the album cover is a photo of what used to be the first Brick Hut Cafe.

"We are so lucky that we got to do this," said Antonuccio. "I am completely grateful because I feel blessed. We got to do it." ▼

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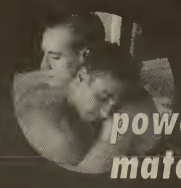
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Ultra-modern to traditional Designs for community center unveiled

by Cynthia Laird

The drawings for San Francisco's planned gay community center are up, and they are impressive. Even more exciting to members of the Community Center Project (CCP) board of directors is the turnout of about 350 people for the unveiling last Wednesday, March 19 – and the raising of some \$11,000 for the project.

"We were just thrilled, not just with the number of people, but with the range of people," CCP board member Scott Shafer told the B.A.R. "People from Jim Hormel to folks I haven't seen at political-type events were there."

The drawings are displayed on the fourth floor of City Hall, where the public is welcome to view them during business hours until Friday, April 4. The winning entry will be selected by a jury in two phases of the competition. That announcement will take place on Sunday, April 19.

The site for the planned center, at Market and Octavia streets, includes a Victorian building that the CCP wants to keep. As a result, the architectural firms in the design competition kept the building in their renderings.

"That Victorian never looked so good," said CCP board member Mark Leno.

Others offered a variety of opinions on the designs, which ranged from Machine Age International Style to Postmodern – including one which was referred to as a "copy machine."

So far, the architectural designs are anonymous. The jury will select five finalists, and they will make presentations to the public and hear comments from people the day the decision is made, Shafer said. The winning firm will win \$10,000 and be invited to negotiate a contract with the CCP.

"We encourage people to come hear the presentations and ask questions," said Shafer.

The nine-member jury will be composed of urban planners, local architects, academics, a citizen representing the community center neighborhood, and a member of the CCP's board, Shafer said.

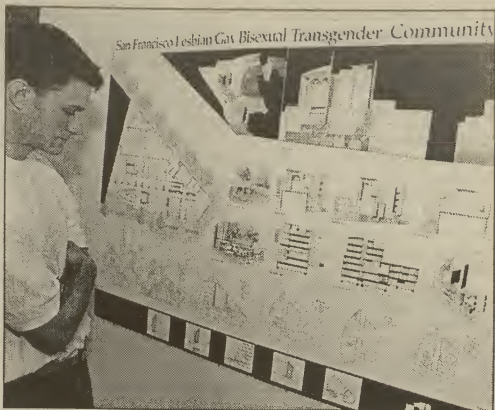
A center for everyone

Board members said the turnout for the unveiling was gratifying because their goal is to ensure the center is for everyone in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. Of the \$11,000 raised last week, about \$8,700 came from individual memberships; the remaining \$2,500 was contributed to the project's capital campaign.

"We picked up about 250 memberships," Leno told the B.A.R.

The two different fundraising mechanisms were designed for the purpose of getting a lot of people involved through the membership drive; and to solicit larger donations from foundations and corporations through the capital campaign.

CCP's community outreach committee co-chairs Felicia Park-Rogers and Quang H. Dang have been staffing tables at 18th and



Future plans: Jay Shermeta admires one of the 15 center designs.

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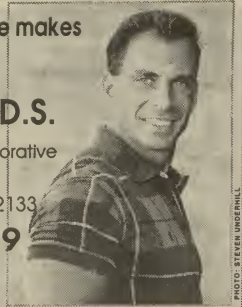


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Lesbian awards benefit glitters, inspires 5th annual LAVA Awards honor pioneers

by Vicky Kolakowski

The fifth annual Lesbians of Achievement, Vision and Action (LAVA) awards banquet sought to do more than honor four outstanding lesbian pioneers for their contributions. The evening's speeches intended to inspire others to achieve, and focused on the theme that each of us can be a hero in our own life.

The event, held last Saturday, March 22, combined a cocktail party, silent auction, dinner, and dance, and honored four lesbians: teacher and activist Cris-

tal Jang; lesbian healthcare activist Dr. Kate O'Hanlan; and prominent lesbian pioneers Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin.

The speeches of the four recipients "exemplified how ordinary our heroes are," in the words of Lesbian Assembly Speaker Pro Tem Sheila Kuehl, the event's keynote speaker. She urged the audience to become "everyday heroes," arguing that "if you want to honor them ... resolve to be heroes where you are."

Earlier speakers struck the same chord. "Try contacting your inner activist," challenged O'Hanlan.

"Find a way to get involved," added Jang. "This LAVA Award is for all of us."

Lyon and Martin noted how far the lesbian community has come over the years, since the two founded the Daughters of Bilitis in 1955 and attended the organization meetings of the Bay Area Career Women (BACW) in 1979, when women wouldn't disclose their last names for fear of reprisal.

Kuehl echoed the point, arguing that "each of you, if you come out, is an activist." She urged the audience to live so as to "be able to look back and say, 'I was the hero of my own life.'"

More than 500 attendees

The awards dinner is a fundraiser for "A Fund of Our Own," which is administered by the Horizons Foundation. The fund supports numerous local lesbian organizations at the local level.

The dinner has grown from an attendance of roughly 400 in 1993 to this year's dinner, which drew about 540 attendees and raised roughly \$25,000. Dinner organizers note that this growth has included increased corporate and private financial backing, including a growing number of men who support the event in order to honor the women in their lives.

The event's success has come despite competition from other fundraising events. Last year, the dinner was held only weeks away from a major benefit awards dinner held by the Women's Building. This year, the Cable Car Awards organization inadvertently scheduled their awards event for the same night as the LAVA dinner. Ironically, the 1996 LAVA dinner was nominated for a Cable Car Award.

'Another level this year'

The ongoing success of the events led BACW to seek professional production assistance this year for the first time, and to bring in lesbian comedienne Suzanne Westenhofer as Mistress of Ceremonies.

"You can't have four years of the same type of event and expect people to keep coming back ... it needed something different," said Betsy York, co-chair of the LAVA committee. She stressed that the prior success demonstrated the high quality of those events, but that more was needed.

"The event went to another level this year ... it brought it into the '90s."

"We think that honoring lesbians deserves a polished setting, in an arena of celebration, and we want the production to match the honor and reflect all of the support people have given the event," York added.

Despite the increased polish of the event, organizers remain committed to maintaining the community nature of the awards. Honorees are chosen from nominations which include those solicited from mailings to other community organizations.

"We seek to make it as broad an opportunity to be honored," York said. ▽



LAVA winner teacher/activist Crystal Jang: "Find a way to get involved."

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INDICATIONS AND USAGE

Marinol (dronabinol) is indicated for the treatment of:

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2. nausea and vomiting associated with cancer chemotherapy in patients who have failed to respond adequately to conventional antiemetic treatments.

CONTRAINDICATIONS

Marinol (dronabinol) is contraindicated in any patient who has a history of hypersensitivity to any cannabinoid or sesame oil.

WARNINGS

Marinol (dronabinol) is a medication with a potential for abuse. Physicians and pharmacists should use the same care in prescribing and accounting for Marinol as they would with morphine or other drugs controlled under Schedule II (CII) of the Controlled Substances Act. Because of the risk of diversion, it is recommended that prescriptions be limited to the amount necessary for the period between clinic visits.

Patients receiving treatment with Marinol should be specifically warned not to drive, operate machinery, or engage in any hazardous activity until it is established that they are able to tolerate the drug and to perform such tasks safely.

PRECAUTIONS

General: The risk/benefit ratio of Marinol (dronabinol) should be carefully evaluated in patients with the following medical conditions because of individual variation in response and tolerance to the effects of Marinol. Marinol should be used with caution in patients with cardiac disorders because of occasional hypotension, possible hypotension, syncope, or tachycardia (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY).

Marinol should be used with caution in patients with a history of substance abuse, including alcohol abuse or dependence, because they may be more prone to abuse Marinol as well. Multiple substance abuse is common and marijuana, which contains the same active compound, is a frequently abused substance.

Marinol should be used with caution and careful psychiatric monitoring in patients with mania, depression, or schizophrenia because Marinol may exacerbate these illnesses.

Marinol should be used with caution in patients receiving concurrent therapy with sedatives, hypnotics or other psychoactive drugs because of the potential for additive or synergistic CNS effects.

Marinol should be used with caution in pregnant patients, nursing mothers, or pediatric patients because it has not been studied in these patient populations.

Marinol should be used with caution for treatment of anorexia and weight loss in elderly patients with AIDS because they may be more sensitive to the psychoactive effects and because its use in these patients has not been studied.

Information for Patients: Patients receiving treatment with Marinol (dronabinol) should be alerted to the potential for additive central nervous system depression if Marinol is used concomitantly with alcohol or other CNS depressants such as benzodiazepines and barbiturates. Patients receiving treatment with Marinol should be specifically warned not to drive, operate machinery, or engage in any hazardous activity until it is established that they are able to tolerate the drug and to perform such tasks safely. Patients using Marinol should be advised of possible changes in mood and other adverse behavioral effects of the drug so as to avoid panic in the event of such manifestations. Patients should remain under the supervision of a responsible adult during initial use of Marinol and following dosage adjustments.

Drug Interactions: In studies involving patients with AIDS and cancer, Marinol (dronabinol) has been co-administered with a variety of medications (e.g., cytotoxic agents, anti-infective agents, sedatives, or opioid analgesics) without resulting in any clinically significant drug/drug interactions. Although no drug/drug interactions were discovered during the clinical trials of Marinol, cannabinoids may interact with other medications through both metabolic and pharmacodynamic mechanisms. Dronabinol is highly protein bound to plasma proteins, and therefore, might displace other protein-bound drugs. Although this displacement has not been confirmed in vivo, practitioners should monitor patients for a change in dosage requirements when administering dronabinol to patients receiving other highly protein-bound drugs. Published reports of drug/drug interactions involving cannabinoids are summarized in the following table.

CONCOMITANT DRUG	CLINICAL EFFECT(S)
Amphetamines, cocaine, other sympathomimetic agents	Additive hypertension, tachycardia, possibly cardiotoxicity
Atropine, scopolamine, anticholinergics, other anticholinergic agents	Additive or super-additive tachycardia, drowsiness
Antihypertensive, amoxicillin, desipramine, other tricyclic antidepressants	Additive tachycardia, hypertension, drowsiness
Barbiturates, benzodiazepines, ethanol, lithium, opioids, bupropion, anticholinergics, muscle relaxants, other CNS depressants	Additive drowsiness and CNS depression
Disulfiram	A reversible hypotonic reaction was reported in a 28 y/o man who smoked marijuana; confirmed by dechallenge and rechallenge
Fluoxetine	A 27 y/o female with depression and bulimia receiving 20 mg/day fluoxetine X 4 wks became hypotonic after smoking marijuana; symptoms resolved after 4 days
Antipyrine, barbiturates	Decreased clearance of these agents, presumably via competitive inhibition of metabolism
Theophylline	Increased theophylline metabolism reported with smoking of marijuana; effect similar to that following smoking tobacco

Cardiogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility: Cardiogenesis studies have not been performed with Marinol. Mutagenicity testing of dronabinol was negative in an Ames test. In a long-term study (77 days) in rats, oral administration of dronabinol at doses of 30 to 150 mg/m² (equivalent to 0.3 to 1.5 times maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) of 90 mg/m²/day in cancer patients or 2 to 10 times MRHD of 15 mg/m²/day in AIDS patients), reduced ventral prostate, seminal vesicle and epididymal weights and caused a decrease in seminal fluid volume. Decreases in spermatogenesis, number of developing germ cells, and number of Leydig cells in the testes were also observed. However, sperm count, mating success and testosterone levels were not affected. The significance of these animal findings in humans is not known.

Pregnancy: Pregnancy Category C. Reproduction studies with dronabinol have been performed in mice at 15 to 450 mg/m² (equivalent to 0.2 to 5 times maximum recommended human dose (MRHD) of 90 mg/m²/day in cancer patients or 1 to 30 times MRHD of 15 mg/m²/day in AIDS patients), and in rats at 74 to 295 mg/m² (equivalent to 0.8 to 3 times MRHD of 90 mg/m² in cancer patients or 5 to 20 times MRHD of 15 mg/m²/day in AIDS patients). These studies have revealed no evidence of teratogenicity due to dronabinol. At these dosages in mice and rats, dronabinol decreased maternal weight gain and number of viable pups and increased fetal mortality and early resorptions. Such effects were dose dependent and less apparent at lower doses which produced less maternal toxicity. There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Dronabinol should be used only if the potential benefits justifies the potential risk to the fetus.

Nursing Mothers: Use of Marinol is not recommended in nursing mothers since, in addition to the secretion of HIV virus in breast milk, dronabinol is concentrated in and secreted in human breast milk and is absorbed by the nursing baby.

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Adverse experiences information summarized in the tables below was derived from well-controlled clinical trials conducted in the US and US territories involving 474 patients exposed to Marinol (dronabinol). Studies of AIDS-related weight loss included 157 patients receiving dronabinol at a dose of 2.5 mg twice daily and 67 receiving placebo. Studies of different durations were combined by considering the first occurrence of events during the first 28 days. Studies of nausea and vomiting related to cancer chemotherapy included 317 patients receiving dronabinol and 68 receiving placebo.

A cannabinoid dose-related "high" (easy laughing, elation and heightened awareness) has been reported by patients receiving Marinol in both the antiemetic (24%) and the lower dose appetite stimulant clinical trials (8%) (see CLINICAL TRIALS).

The most frequently reported adverse experiences in patients with AIDS during placebo-controlled clinical trials involved the CNS and were reported by 35% of patients receiving Marinol. About 25% of patients reported a minor CNS adverse event during the first 2 weeks and about 4% reported such an event each week for the next 6 weeks thereafter.

PROBABLY CAUSALLY RELATED: Incidence greater than 1%.

Rates derived from clinical trials in AIDS-related anorexia (N=157) and chemotherapy-related nausea (N=317). Rates were generally higher in the anti-emetic use (given in parentheses).

Body as a whole: Adxenia.

Cardiovascular: Palpitations, tachycardia, vasodilation/facial flush.

Digestive: Abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting.

Nervous system: (Anxiety), anxiety/nervousness, (ataxia), confusion, depersonalization, dizziness, euphoria, (hallucination), paranoid reaction, somnolence, thinking abnormal.

"Incidence of events 3% to 10%."

PROBABLY CAUSALLY RELATED: Incidence less than 1%.

Event rates derived from clinical trials in AIDS-related anorexia (N=157) and chemotherapy-related nausea (N=317).

Cardiovascular: Conjunctivitis, hypotension.

Digestive: Diarrhea, fecal incontinence.

Musculoskeletal: Myalgias.

Nervous system: Depression, nightmares, speech difficulties, tinnitus.

Skin and Appendages: Flushing.

Special senses: Vision difficulties.

"Incidence of events 0.3% to 1%."

CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP UNKNOWN: Incidence less than 1%.

The clinical significance of the association of these events with Marinol treatment is unknown, but they are reported as alerting information for the clinician.

Body as a whole: Chills, headache, malaise.

Digestive: Anorexia, hepatic enzyme elevation.

Respiratory: Cough, rhinitis, sinusitis.

Skin and Appendages: Sweating.

DRUG ABUSE AND DEPENDENCE

Marinol (dronabinol) is one of the psychoactive compounds present in cannabis, and is abusable and controlled Schedule II (CII) under the Controlled Substances Act. Both psychological and physiological dependence have been noted in healthy individuals receiving dronabinol, but addiction is uncommon and has only been seen after prolonged high dose administration.

Chronic abuse of cannabis has been associated with decrements in motivation, cognition, judgment, and perception. The severity of these impairments is unknown, but may be associated with the complex process of addiction rather than a simple effect of the drug. No such decrements in psychological, social or neurological status have been associated with the administration of Marinol for therapeutic purposes.

In an open-label study in patients with AIDS who received Marinol for up to five months, no abuse, diversion or systematic change in personality or social functioning were observed despite the inclusion of a substantial number of patients with a past history of drug abuse.

An abstinence syndrome has been reported after the abrupt discontinuation of dronabinol in volunteers receiving dosages of 210 mg/day for 12 to 16 consecutive days. Within 12 hours after discontinuation, these volunteers manifested symptoms such as irritability, insomnia, and restlessness. By approximately 24 hours post-dronabinol discontinuation, withdrawal symptoms intensified to include "hot flashes," sweating, rhinorrhea, loose stools, incoherence and anorexia.

These withdrawal symptoms gradually subsided over the next 48 hours. Electroencephalographic changes consistent with the effects of drug withdrawal (hyperarousal) were recorded in patients after abrupt dechallenge. Patients also complained of disturbed sleep for several weeks after discontinuing therapy with high dosages of dronabinol.

OVERDOSEAGE

Signs and symptoms following MILD Marinol (dronabinol) intoxication include drowsiness, euphoria, heightened sensory awareness, altered time perception, reddened conjunctiva, dry mouth and tachycardia. Following MODERATE to SEVERE intoxication include decreased motor coordination, lethargy, slurred speech, and postural hypotension. Aggressive patients may experience panic reactions and seizures may occur in patients with existing seizure disorders.

The estimated lethal dose of intravenous dronabinol is 30 mg/kg (2100 mg/70 kg). Significant CNS symptoms in antiemetic studies followed oral doses of 0.4 mg/kg (28 mg/70 kg) of Marinol.

Management: A potentially serious oral ingestion, if recent, should be managed with gut decontamination. In unconscious patients with a secure airway, instill activated charcoal (30 to 100 g in adults, 1 to 2 g/kg in infants) via a nasogastric tube. A saline cathartic or sorbitol may be added to the first dose of activated charcoal. Patients experiencing depressive, hallucinatory or psychotic reactions should be placed in a quiet area and offered reassurance. Benzodiazepines (5 to 10 mg diazepam po) may be used for treatment of extreme agitation. Hypertension responds to Trendelenburg position and IV fluids. Pressors are rarely required.

DOSEAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Appetite stimulation: Initially, 2.5 mg Marinol (dronabinol) should be administered orally twice daily (b.i.d.), before lunch and supper. For patients unable to tolerate this 5 mg/day dosage of Marinol, the dosage can be reduced to 2.5 mg/day, administered as a single dose in the evening or at bedtime. If clinically indicated and in the absence of significant adverse effects, the dosage may be gradually increased to a maximum of 20 mg/day dronabinol, administered in divided oral doses. Caution should be exercised in escalating the dosage of Marinol because of the increased frequency of dose-related adverse experiences at higher dosages (see PRECAUTIONS).

Antiemetic: Marinol is best administered at an initial dose of 5 mg/m², given 1 to 3 hours prior to the administration of chemotherapy, then every 2 to 4 hours after chemotherapy is given, for a total of 4 to 6 doses/day. Should the 5 mg/m² dose prove to be ineffective, and in the absence of significant side effects, the dose may be escalated by 2.5 mg/m² increments to a maximum of 15 mg/m² per dose. Caution should be exercised in dose escalation, however, as the incidence of disturbing psychiatric symptoms increases significantly at maximum dose (see PRECAUTIONS).

SAFETY AND HANDLING

Marinol (dronabinol) should be packaged in a well-closed container and stored in a cool environment between 8° and 15°C (46° and 59°F). Protect from freezing. No particular hazard to health care workers handling the capsules has been identified.

Access to abusable drugs such as Marinol presents an occupational hazard for addiction in the health care industry. Routine procedures for handling controlled substances developed to protect the public may not be adequate to protect health care workers. Implementation of more effective accounting procedures and measures to appropriately restrict access to drugs of this class may minimize the risk of self-administration by health care providers.

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5 mg dark brown capsules (Identified RL)

NDC 0054-2602-11: Bottles of 25 capsules.

NDC 0054-2602-25: Bottles of 100 capsules.

10 mg orange capsules (Identified RL)

NDC 0054-2603-11: Bottles of 25 capsules.

NDC 0054-2603-21: Bottles of 60 capsules.

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GLMA's lesbian health fund awards over \$25k

Four projects picked; none from Bay Area

by Cynthia Laird

Four health research projects received over \$25,000 in grant money from a health fund set up by the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA), the association announced March 10.

The money, from GLMA's Lesbian Health Fund (LHF), went to four projects, all east coast-based.

The LHF is a medical research fund dedicated to seeking answers for the unique concerns of lesbians, according to Karin Martin, grants administrator.

To date, the fund has funded 21 grants totaling \$150,000. This year's grants totaled \$26,464.

The recipients were selected for the excellence of their project's design, their experience in research, and the significance of the project to the lesbian community. The awards were given without regard to the recipient's sexual orientation.

"One of the most exciting elements for the LHF this year is that we're beginning to review the research results of previously awarded grants," said Dr. Judith Wurmbrand, a Columbus, Ohio family practitioner and president of the LHF advisory board. "And as our researchers are beginning to be published, we know we are doing what we set out to do - growing the depth and breadth of information that we're able to make available on lesbian health."

Wide variety

Dr. Jocelyn White, GLMA president and an internist in Portland, Oregon, said the types of projects funded in this cycle reflect the increasing diversity of lesbian health as a field of study.

"We're beginning to reach out to all different kinds of lesbians with a wide variety of health problems; we're not just doing basic work anymore," White said. "I'm really proud that GLMA's membership is committed to lesbian health research and improving health for lesbians in so many different ways."

The 1997 grant recipients are: "Shades of Lavender," by Yannick Durand, Ph.D., in Brooklyn, New York. Funds will allow the assessment of HIV prevention education services provided by an urban community center in addition to a study of the characteris-

tics of the population it serves. "The Perspectives of Older, Rural Lesbians on Accessing Health Care," by Sandra S. Butler, of the School of Social Work at the University of Maine in Orono. Researchers will examine if and how older, rural lesbians' ideas about health care affect their own access of health services.

"We're beginning to reach out to all different kinds of lesbians with a wide variety of health problems."

—Dr. Jocelyn White

"Building a Lesbian Database," by Ann Pollinger Haas, Ph.D., of the Department of Health Services at Lehman College in the Bronx, New York. The project will develop a systematic procedure for communities in and outside the United States to replicate a women's health survey and contribute findings to the database.

"Assessment of Risk Factors for Osteoporosis and Bone Density in Premenopausal Lesbian and Heterosexual Women," by Dr. Clifford J. Rosen, of the Maine Center for Osteoporosis in Bangor. The study will strive to identify the medical and lifestyle factors, if any, within the lesbian community that may affect bone mineral density and subsequently increase the risk of osteoporosis.

The LHF is a medical research fund dedicated to seeking answers for the unique health concerns of lesbians. The fund's goal is to educate both health care workers and lesbians about lesbian health needs.

The GLMA was formed in 1981 as the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights. The organization has more than 1,800 lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender physicians, medical students, and their supporters as members and is represented in all 50 states and 12 countries.

The organization works to maximize the quality of health services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals; to promote full civil rights; and to foster a professional climate in which members can achieve their full potential. ▼

For more information about the GLMA or the LHF, call (415) 255-4547.

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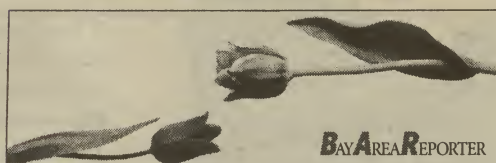
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For more information call Kathy Dybeck, RN at 476-9296 x353 or call Sue Forstat, LVN (UCSF Med. Center, 476-3226)

Team SF members start running

by Jim Provenzano

The disclosure of a misappropriation of funds by a now-former board member was just one of many important issues that Team San Francisco members discussed at their Saturday, March 22 meeting at the Eureka Valley Recreation Center.

The first item concerned the alleged misappropriation of funds by the board member, who has since been voted off the board by the remaining members. New Treasurer Allen Wood revealed that in the wake of the alleged misappropriation, the non-profit's current financial holdings total \$252 — not including the debt for a few bounced checks. And although the board would not disclose the amount allegedly stolen, a Team SF member, in asking a question, referred to the amount as "thousands of dollars."

Team SF fundraisers hope to raise those funds to at least \$630 per quarter, which Wood estimated as quarterly expenses, including the cost of maintaining an updated Team SF website. Board member Marcus Valera mentioned that the original website server, Emerald On-Ramp, has gone out of business. Team SF is still considering a server and hoping to find a donated one. They expect to make a decision and have the website up and running within a few weeks.

While the group awaits the reimbursement of funds by the ousted board member, an anonymous donor has agreed to front funds to maintain Team SF.

While the nearly 80 Team SF

members who attended the meeting were concerned about the fiscal issues, many seemed eager to move on to the pressing issues of Gay Games V in Amsterdam, and fired diverse questions about the enormous event.

With only 15 months to plan, several Team SF members were concerned about issues of sanctioning, space allocations, travel accommodations, and age limitations in several sports.

Duke Dahlin, an original member of Team SF since Gay Games' origins, questioned the limiting age groups in Masters Swimming. The wide-based 18-39 category, for example, would essentially "wipe out" older swimmers. Dahlin questioned what appears to be a limitation on the number of competing athletes. A similar problem with Senior Masters Swimming being "lumped together" in the 50-years-and-older category was also criticized.

Federation of Gay Games Executive Board member Dave Anderson from Denver mentioned that demonstration sports have been added to the events, including equestrian events and golf. As to the specifics of location and age slots, he admitted that many aspects of organization were "sketchy" on Amsterdam's part.

Wood, who also heads the Uniform committee, reported that The Gap had turned down the team's request for donated uniforms. It was stressed that the Uniform Committee might commission uniforms, at cost, if necessary, that would be "both eye-catching yet functional."

Numerous overseas communication problems were made more

explicit in a copy of the brochure for Gay Games. Printed in Dutch and poorly translated English, the brochure served as a clear example of the continuing communication gap between Dutch and U.S. organizers, despite presumptions about Dutch multilingual capabilities.

Traveling to foreign countries also became an important issue to Team SF members making plans for themselves or entire teams. Jim Silva, who heads the Travel Committee, introduced Jonathan Klein from Now, Voyager Travel. Klein explained that because their website of travel options is now open (nowvoyager.com), even though the Team SF package deals won't be finalized until May 1, people can book their travel or accommodations now. Unfortunately, complete and accurate prices for plane fares will not be available until September 1. Estimated airfare costs ranged from \$900 to \$1200, with a possible \$100-200 discount.

Ticketing for athletic events came under scrutiny. Sean Crowley, a competitive figure skater, questioned the difficulty athletes have had in securing spectator tickets to events, even their own. Lisa Lebreque, co-chair of Team SF's Board, reminded members that many popular events such as bodybuilding, figure skating, and swimming will always be popular; getting tickets remains difficult, even for participants.

With slots available for 13,000 athletes, over 1,000 have already pre-registered. Some Team SF members expressed dismay at being forced to pre-register for sports to secure slots while, at the

same time, due to the numerous inconsistencies in the Amsterdam organizers' categorization and re-grouping of sports like 10K run and Masters Swimming, there is still no assurance that they will be able to compete.

And although the Executive Board of the Federation assured members that by May 1, many clarifications will be in effect, at least virtually, on the Gay Games website, it seems that Amsterdam organizers would benefit from persistent requests for clarification.

"I just hope they get their act together over there," said one athlete when reminded of the 1994 fitness, in which Amsterdam's Euro-

pride event was sabotaged by rival gay factions of a split committee. Gay Games V's board suffered similar eruptions. The current advisory board was installed only last year by government officials, after numerous arguments over space allocations forced several original board members to quit. ▼

Participating athletes are strongly encouraged to contact Gay Games V organizers directly. Call 011 31 20 427 1998, fax 011 31 20 626 1998, or e-mail info@gaygames.nl. The website address is <http://www.dds.nl/~gaygames>.

Castro Fair return: \$20K

by Dennis Conkin

Last October's Castro Street Fair generated \$68,000 in proceeds from booth rentals, and will disburse \$20,000 in income from gate receipts to nonprofit community groups, according to CSF board member Frank Pietronigro. CSF board figures show expenses of some \$42,000 for production, permits, clean-up, security, and other costs, including approximately \$12,000 for staff salaries.

Ten recipient groups collected funds and staffed fair entrance gates at the annual event. Pacific Center for Human Growth, an East Bay lesbian and gay services agency, received the most cash from the gate collection — a total of \$4,380. ACT UP/Golden Gate received the second largest amount, with \$923.

The CSF board will also announce the winner of a \$5,000 Directors Award at its meeting Sunday, April 6. Contenders for the award include Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center and the GodFather Service Fund.

According to Pietronigro, the fair has more lesbian and gay visibility and community representation now that he, gay rights activist and San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Pride Celebration co-chair Ed Goehring, and lesbian Leigh Christopher have been added to the board. Other members include Michael Meracle, a longtime Castro resident and manager of the Castro Walgreen's; Jake Hesse, owner of Rainbow Grocery and General Store; Rick Thomas; Pablo Heising, who produces the Haight Street Fair; and Vic Carnes.

"I think community relations are ten times better," Pietronigro said. "We're still actively seeking board members. It's a great opportunity."

Pietronigro said a key interest for future fairs is the development of public art that would provide funds for lesbian and gay and AIDS nonprofits.

"Our board of directors is currently considering ways to further expand financial support to local community groups. It is our intention to develop new production components into the 1997 Castro Street Fair that will combine public art, entertainment, education, and audience participation with fundraising," Pietronigro said.

He said nonprofit groups interested in meeting the criteria should write an introductory letter summarizing the concept of their fundraising activity and how it would generate funds, and send it with a preliminary budget to the Castro Street Fair at Post Office Box 14405, SF CA 94114, or call 467-3354. ▼

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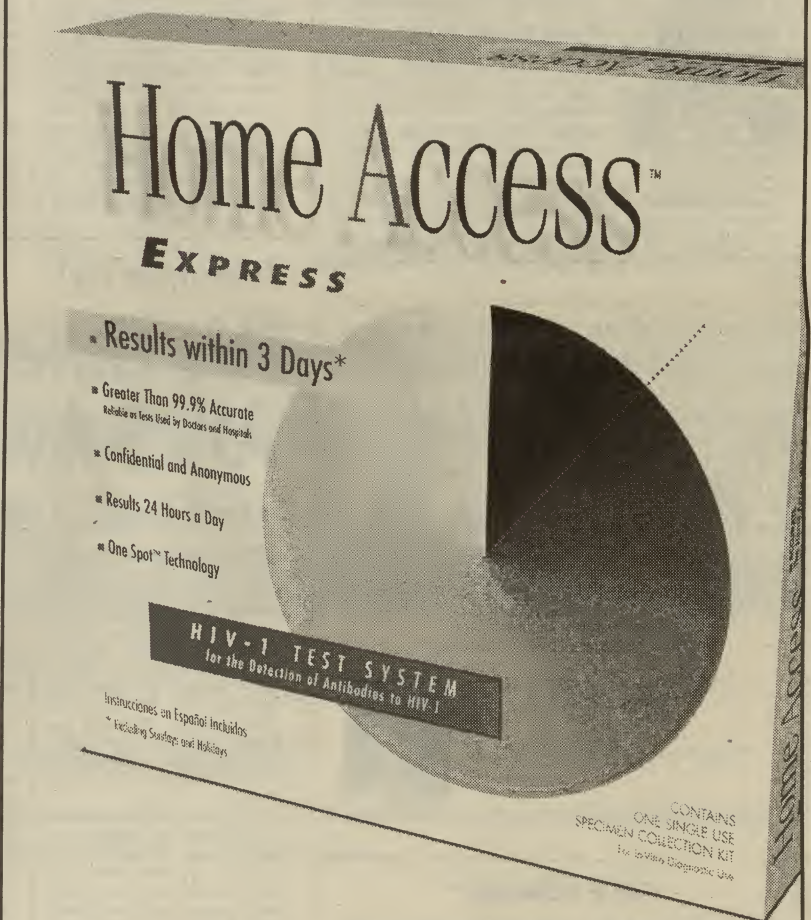
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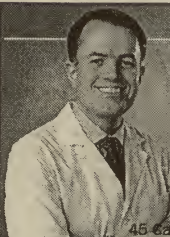
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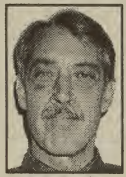

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New boss announced at Stop AIDS Project

by Cynthia Laird

The Stop AIDS Project (SAP) announced on Tuesday, March 18, that Timothy J. Leifield has been hired as the agency's new executive director. The agency's board of directors conducted an extensive search prior to selecting Leifield, who formerly was executive director of the Boulder County AIDS Project (BCAP) in Boulder, Colorado.

Leifield will bring with him years of experience in managing HIV prevention programs, developing community-based organizations, and developing effective collaborations with other groups, said SAP's David Boyer. Additionally, Leifield will be advocating for cultural diversity.

"In a time when the face of AIDS epidemic is changing, Timothy brings the skills of strong, inclusive, and innovative leadership," said Robert Reiter, SAP's newly elected board president.

"With Timothy, the Stop AIDS Project will continue its effective prevention in the diverse cultural environment of San Francisco."

Boyer said the agency's search committee, composed of volun-



Timothy J. Leifield

teers, staff, and board members, selected Leifield based on his community leadership, experience, and dedication to HIV prevention in the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community. The search started last December, Boyer told the B.A.R.

Leifield holds a bachelor of arts degree in journalism from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. In addition to his work with BCAP, Leifield has served on the executive committee of the HIV

Resources Planning Council in Denver, and the Community Planning Committee of the Boulder County United Way. He was also disbursements committee chair of the Governor's AIDS Council in Colorado.

His volunteer work includes serving on the board of directors for several Colorado organizations. In 1995, Leifield was honored with the Boulder County Pacesetter of the Year Award.

"We are looking forward to his contribution to the vision and innovation that characterizes our prevention programs," said SAP staff member Hector Carrillo.

Volunteer Clayton Tschudy added, "Tim is down-to-earth and really cares about people. I know I'll see him pounding the streets of the Tenderloin as well as the corridors of City Hall."

Stop AIDS Project, formed in 1984, works with self-identified gay and bisexual men in San Francisco, and seeks to reduce HIV transmission and lessen the adverse effects of the epidemic. ▼

For more information about Stop AIDS Project, call (415) 621-7177.

Panahon na!

It's time for Filipino AIDS Awareness Week

by Rene M. Astudillo

Since the beginning of the AIDS epidemic, Filipinos living in the United States have constituted the largest number of reported AIDS cases among all Asians and Pacific Islanders (APIs). This is true in California, as it is in most other states and cities. More than a third of all API AIDS cases in California are among Filipinos, and the percentage is even higher — nearly 40% — in the city and county of San Francisco.

It is not only the large number of AIDS cases that Filipino community leaders and health advocates are concerned about. It is also what they see as the "long-held silence and avoidance" around the issue of AIDS among Filipino-Americans.

"It's about time," says the Filipino Task Force on AIDS (FTFA), that this community indifference must come to an end. It is for this reason that FTFA in observance of this year's "Filipino AIDS Awareness Week" has chosen the theme "Panahon Na!" — literally meaning, "It's time."

This year's observance, scheduled from this Monday, March 31 to April 6, has received the support not only of the Office of the Mayor of San Francisco, but the mayors of eight other cities in the greater Bay Area, including Daly City, Fremont, Hayward, Milpitas, Oakland, San Jose, Union City and Vallejo. Like the office of mayor Willie Brown, the mayor's offices in these other cities have

signed official proclamations on the observance of "Filipino AIDS Awareness Week."

AIDS service providers serving the Filipino community in the Bay Area have been involved not only in educating Filipinos about HIV and AIDS, but in trying to meet the medical, social, and other support needs of those living with the disease. Of special concern to the providers is the impact of the new immigration and welfare reform laws which could potentially deprive even legal immigrants, if they are not citizens, of needed treatment and care. For many uninsured clients, the prospect of the promising drug combinations using protease inhibitors is even barely an option.

Sometime last year, FTFA launched a community mobilization project to get the Filipino community more involved in helping provide Filipino-specific HIV education and AIDS care services in the light of shrinking government and Foundation moneys for minority populations. FTFA continues to step up its community outreach through donor-designated campaigns such as the United Way.

Items on the agenda

Activities for this year's "Filipino AIDS Awareness Week" include a press conference on March 31 to impress upon the Filipino community the importance of AIDS education and how AIDS affects the community. On April 2, a discussion of HIV/AIDS in the Philippines will take place, with FTFA executive director

Marianna Balquedra making the presentation. Balquedra was formerly the executive director of the Remedios AIDS Foundation in the Philippines.

A "Celebration of Life" church service will be held at the Old Mission Dolores Church in San Francisco on April 3, followed on April 4 by a forum called "Pinoy Positive Panel," with Filipinos affected by HIV/AIDS meeting with the community.

The week will be capped by HIV educational outreach at the Serramonte Mall in Daly City on April 5, and a community social and cultural gathering at Solita's Restaurant in San Bruno on April 6.

Aside from FTFA, other agencies and community-based organizations throughout the Bay Area have shown their support in ensuring a successful observance of "Filipino AIDS Awareness Week." These include the Aris Project, API Wellness Center, Asian American for Community Involvement, Asian Health Services, California Department of Human Services, Ellipse, Filipinos for Affirmative Action, Golden Gate Healthcare Center, Project Adapt, San Francisco AIDS Foundation Trilingual AIDS Hotline, San Mateo County AIDS Program, and West Bay Filipino Multi-Service Corporation's SOMA Teen Center. ▼

For more information on how to be involved in the observance of "Filipino AIDS Awareness Week," contact FTFA at (415) 703-9880.

Crystal forum

◀ page 1

sion, and psychotic behavior, especially following prolonged use. Sajo and others noted, however, that it is unclear how often speed use precedes mental symptoms and how often methamphetamine is used to "self-medicate" a pre-existing condition. Withdrawal following prolonged use may result in insomnia, depression, and craving for the drug. Currently, no pharmacological treatment for speed addiction is available, and Sajo's practice focuses on supportive psychological counseling and amino acid supplementation.

While speed use is not known to directly worsen HIV disease, it may lead to lack of sleep, inadequate nutrition, and difficulty adhering to a strict antiviral regimen. Calling attention to recent news reports that use of the protease inhibitor ritonavir could lead to overdose levels of the drug ecstasy, Sajo noted that speed may pose a similar risk.

It is widely reported that crystal has an aphrodisiac effect, and much has been made of the "speed-sex connection." Delayed ejaculation and prolonged intercourse may lead to a higher rate of condom breakage and an increased risk of HIV transmission. Sajo cited a study that found that women who use methamphetamine are more likely to engage in risky sexual practices, including unprotected anal intercourse.

Former users talk

Four former or current crystal users discussed their own experiences with the drug. "Miles" used crystal and a variety of other

drugs and alcohol. He is an adherent of the 12-step philosophy, and does not believe that purely "social" or recreational use is possible over the long term. Noting that the recovery community is one of the largest gay/lesbian "organizations," he stated his belief that drugs are often used to help ameliorate a feeling of being different and not belonging. He concluded that crystal "makes you feel good all the time, but if you feel good and are happy without it, you don't need it."

"Clayton," in contrast, is an occasional crystal user who views the drug as a "party accessory." He said he sees speed as a "dance drug" and has never had sex while using it. Clayton does not feel his speed use is a problem. He knows many people who use the drug once every few months, and claims that he tends to get "much more screwed up on alcohol." He urged the community to "depathologize" speed use, and encouraged harm reduction efforts that reached out to occasional users.

"Matthew," like Clayton, used the drug "for party reasons, never for sexual reasons." He noted that crystal is "very prevalent, easy to get, and accepted in the bar social scene." Matthew found that speed use "became a problem when mixed with other drugs."

Finally, "Dan" said that for him, crystal use was indeed related to sex, providing him with an "E ticket to the sexual experiences I wanted to have." He found that using speed enabled him to have sexual interactions with men which he could not allow himself to have otherwise. Dan feels that the stigma surrounding use of the drug and the "fear of being judged" gets in the way of finding

social support to deal with one's use. It was not until he tested HIV positive that Dan recognized his speed use as a problem. He sees crystal use as "one of the worst things you can do to your health if you are HIV positive," and concluded, "I wouldn't be infected with HIV if not for speed."

Denckla concluded the presentation with the results of a recent Stop AIDS Project survey of speed use among gay and bisexual men in the Castro, Polk, and South of Market. Among the 411 men surveyed, 43% had used speed and 56% had not. Users spanned a range of ages; the largest group was between 30-39, challenging the common notion that speed use is a problem of youth. The majority of both users and non-users sampled were white, but a disproportionately greater percentage of users were men of color. Speed users tend to believe that speed is the most popular substance used by gay and bi men; non-users think it is more popular than any substance except alcohol. Among speed users, 65% did not always use a condom during anal sex, compared to 48% of non-users. A striking difference was that among speed users, 55% had only one sexual partner and 31% had more than one, while among non-users, 85% had one partner, and 13% had more than one. ▼

The Stop AIDS Project will hold its next meeting tonight (Thursday, March 27) to discuss community action around the issue of speed use. The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. at the Center for Alternative Families at 425 Divisadero Street.

Abbott Labs responds on potential ritonavir, ecstasy interaction

by Cynthia Laird

Abbott Laboratories, manufacturer of the protease inhibitor ritonavir, responded in a March 14 letter to a San Francisco health official's request for information about the potential of a drug interaction between ritonavir and ecstasy. The information basically confirmed the possibility for interaction, although no formal studies have been conducted.

Dana Van Gorder, the Department of Public Health coordinator of lesbian and gay health services, wrote to Abbott officials after learning about the death of a man in England last year. Initially it was thought Philip Kay died of an ecstasy overdose; later toxicology reports, however, showed the amount of MDMA in Kay's bloodstream to be equivalent to 22 tablets of ecstasy, not the two and one-half tablets he was known to have ingested. Kay had also been taking ritonavir.

MDMA is a psychoactive drug that is the main ingredient in what is sold as ecstasy and commonly used by nightclubbers.

A letter from Mary McAndrews and Dr. Robert Hoff of Abbott reiterated comments made by Dr. P. Kon of Abbott Labs in England; essentially, they said that ecstasy metabolism takes place in the liver and that between five and nine percent of the Caucasian population is deficient in metabolizing MDMA.

"No formal studies have been conducted to assess a drug interaction between ritonavir and the amphetamine derivative, 'ecstasy.' However, based on the known metabolisms of each drug, a theoretical ... interaction has been predicted," McAndrews and Hoff stated.

In summary, McAndrews and Hoff stated that it is likely that a person who is a poor metabolizer of MDMA and taking ritonavir and ecstasy could experience a higher concentration of ecstasy. Possibly, they wrote, as much as five- to ten-fold. ▼

For more information, people should consult with their physician or call Dana Van Gorder at (415) 554-2599. Project Inform also has information on the subject and can be reached at (415) 558-9051 or (800) 822-7422.

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100-150 new housing subsidies by June

Council unanimously approves 'shallow' rent program for PWAs

by Cynthia Laird

A new "shallow" rent subsidy program that will serve between 100-150 people with disabling HIV/AIDS was unanimously approved Monday, March 24 by the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council. Senior staff at the Department of Public Health's AIDS Office said the program is something they can implement by July 1, the target date set by the council.

Several months ago, the council decided that creating additional AIDS housing subsidies was going to be a top priority. The group's ad-hoc housing committee began meeting in January in an attempt to help solve the problem.

"We don't view this as the solution. We see it as an opportunity to redirect funds," said council member Joy Rucker. "It's the thing we could do now."

Some members felt strongly that since the expressed will of the council was not to fund the Centralized Housing Information and Placement System (CHIPS) housing wait list with CARE money, CHIPS should be taken out of the CARE budget altogether, and the money used for housing subsidies. As a result, between \$250,000

and \$270,000 will be available for the program in the current 1997-98 Ryan White CARE Act budget.

Although the council intentionally did not provide a definition of "shallow" rent, people must meet certain income criteria and other requirements to be eligible for the program.

Individuals will be selected from the CHIPS waiting list. Anna D'Amato, housing operations manager at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF), which operates CHIPS, told the B.A.R. there are currently 3,200 active people on the list.

There are roughly 1,000 units of AIDS housing (beds in a facility or subsidies). Not all of the capital projects are completed, however, so the actual number of housing units is lower. Additionally, virtually all of those units are currently being used, which leads to a very lengthy wait once someone has been placed on the CHIPS list.

Norm Nickens, assistant director of the AIDS Office and the office's co-chair on the council, said the program is workable in terms of getting it started in just a few months.

"The timeline certainly looks do-able," said Nickens. "This is one part of a much broader solution."

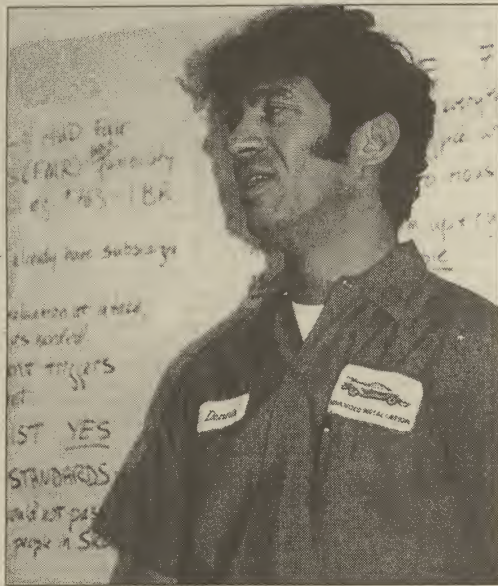
Subsidy details

Under the new subsidy program, people will be able to utilize single resident occupancy (SRO) hotels. The proposal does not require units to meet federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations. Housing subsidies funded with federal Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS (HOPWA) money must meet those standards. For example, rooms in SROs typically do not have individual bathrooms, one of the HUD standards, so those rooms could not be used by those receiving subsidies.

"We're trying to direct these subsidies to extremely low income [people]," member Tom Calvanese said. "A lot of the target population are in SROs."

The maximum subsidy amounts under the proposal are \$200 per month for individuals and \$300 per month for families. HUD fair market rents (FMR) will be the maximum allowed rents. FMR is currently \$763 per month for a one-bedroom and \$495 per month for a SRO, according to the housing committee's report.

The income requirement will include people receiving General Assistance (GA) or SSI. The maximum income will be 25 percent



Tom Calvanese

of median income as defined by HUD; approximately \$10,250 per year, or \$854 per month.

Housing subsidies in the city are provided by HOPWA and CARE money. As of last September, there were 378 CARE-funded subsidies and 399 HOPWA-funded subsidies in use. The council's action Monday is expected to increase the pool of CARE-funded subsidies.

Calvanese said the program is "temporary," in that it's for people who are waiting to get into a permanent housing program. Then, their "shallow" rent subsidy would go to someone else. There is no time limit on the subsidies, as the wait for permanent housing ranges anywhere from six months to over a year.

AIDS activists and others living with HIV/AIDS have addressed the council and the housing committee repeatedly over the last several months, citing the critical need for housing subsidies.

Controversial CHIPS

The money for the new "shallow" rent program would have gone for the CHIPS wait list, which the San Francisco AIDS Foundation administers for the city. CHIPS has been the topic of heated debates since its inception; the controversy continued during last year's prioritization process, when the council erroneously believed CHIPS had been removed from CARE and transferred to the city's general fund budget.

The debate over CHIPS is not so much about the SFAF's administration of it; in fact, CHIPS has become more efficient since the foundation took it over last May. Prior to that, under other agencies' aegis, D'Amato said there had been serious problems, including beds sitting empty because people on the list could not be located. Those issues have since been addressed, and the foundation has made CHIPS more accessible, she said.

"Housing providers are able to

locate 90 percent of the people [on CHIPS]," D'Amato said.

The reason for the controversy is that some people feel that CARE funds should not be used to support a computer system when the money could go toward providing more subsidies or other direct services in the housing category.

In January, when the council voted to restore \$770,000 cut from the 1997-98 housing service category, it also restored the funding for the CHIPS contract, although members weren't aware of that, because they believed CHIPS had already been taken out of the CARE budget.

According to council member William Carter, that fact was stated at the January 13 council meeting. Dr. Gene Copello, AIDS Office health and prevention services branch chief, said in response to a question from Carter that "CHIPS is out of housing. It is in the general fund now." Carter said Copello's comment is on a tape of the meeting.

Copello clarified those comments on March 10. What he was referring to was the fact that the council had decided they did not want to defund the housing service category, and if cuts were to be made, the city's general fund would close the gap, in effect causing no cuts. In that sense, CHIPS would have been funded with general fund money.

The council's housing task force (formerly the ad-hoc housing committee) is expected to continue looking at the many issues surrounding AIDS housing in the city at future meetings. ▼

The council's next meeting is Monday, April 14 at 4:30 p.m. in the sixth floor conference room at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 10 United Nations Plaza, at Market and Seventh streets. For information about the housing task force meeting, call the AIDS Office at (415) 554-9000.

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HIV planning council seeks new members

by Cynthia Laird

The Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council (CARE Council) is seeking applications for new members to serve in 1997-98. The council is the oversight body for the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act (CARE) funds in the San Francisco eligible metropolitan area (EMA), which includes San Mateo and Marin counties.

The deadline for applications to be submitted to the AIDS Office is Friday, April 18. The council's membership committee will review nominations and make recommendations to the full council. The council's recommendations are then submitted to Mayor Willie Brown, who makes

the appointments.

The primary responsibilities of council members include: developing a comprehensive plan compatible with existing state and local plans for HIV services; establishing priorities for the allocation of CARE funds; and assessing the efficiency of the administrative mechanism in rapidly allocating funds to areas of greatest need.

Council members are required to attend two council meetings and one committee meeting per month. This represents approximately nine hours a month.

Certain categories of membership are reserved for individuals who are openly HIV-positive. Members are also required to disclose potential conflicts of interest. Currently, the council is seeking nominations to fill exist-

ing vacancies, including the following categories: HIV-positive youth; Native Americans; HIV-positive women; advocates for new immigrants and undocumented persons; non-agency affiliated consumers of CARE services; and the transgender community.

Applicants must complete the council's membership nomination form prior to consideration by the membership committee.

Assistance is available for individuals with special needs. ▼

Interested individuals can obtain application packets at the AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Avenue, Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94102. For more information, call Eric Sorensen at (415) 554-9136.

Sex club regs

◀ page 1

sex establishments as venues for the dissemination of HIV prevention information and tools, while not infringing on sex club patrons' rights to privacy and freedom of choice."

The resolution was promptly seconded and passed by unanimous acclaim.

Much of the discussion following the passage of the resolution focused on club members' concerns that the sex club regulations involve selective enforcement and unfairly target gay men. The discussion became heated, with even Milk Club chair Jeff Sheehy joining the fray. To date, no heterosexual sex establishments have been targeted for inspections under the

newly codified standards. Packer noted, however, that a "second phase" of inspections will include locations that host sex parties attended by people of all genders and sexual orientations.

To conclude the meeting, Deputy Director of Building Inspection James Hutchinson spoke briefly about the joint inspections that the fire and building departments will be conducting with the DPH. He stated his belief that compliance with the city's fire, building, planning, zoning, and handicapped access codes was a much larger issue than the current focus on sexual activities within the clubs. Hutchinson said that he "cannot bend the rules" for sex clubs, but that he is "happy to meet with every owner" to help them bring their clubs into compliance and keep them open. ▼

Prevention Council accepting nominations for new members until April 18

by Cynthia Laird

The city's HIV Prevention Planning Council (HPPC) is seeking nominations for membership. Appointments will be for a full 24-month term beginning on August 1, with a provisional period, June through July.

Nomination forms must be received by Friday, April 18.

The Department of Public Health's AIDS Office staff said

that for the average member, appointment to the HPPC entails a commitment of approximately eight hours per month. HPPC meetings are usually held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 3 to 6 p.m. Additionally, all council members are expected to participate in at least one committee meeting per month; these meetings are usually three hours long.

Currently, the council is seeking nominees who have prior ex-

perience in HIV prevention and represent the following areas: various people of color communities; HIV-positive individuals; transgender individuals; and youth.

People who meet these specifications must also either work or live in San Francisco. ▼

Nomination forms are available from the AIDS Office, 25 Van Ness Ave., Suite 500, SF, CA 94102 or call (415) 554-9492.

Center designs

◀ page 19

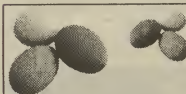
Castro streets lately, to get input and answer any questions people may have. Most of those who have stopped by have seemed excited about the community center, she said.

Park-Rogers, who joined the CCP board about six months ago, said she was impressed with the drawings at the unveiling, most of which show a community center with four or five levels.

"It really moved it to a new level of reality," Park-Rogers told the B.A.R. "They impressed upon me the historical and cultural significance the building will have."

The \$7.3 million project is expected to open in 1999. ▼

For more information or to contribute to the Community Center Project, call (415) 241-1526. The April 19 event will start at 10 a.m. in Room 207 at City Hall, 401 Van Ness Avenue.



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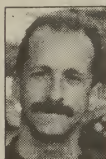
Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization – and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. They must be submitted within a year of the death.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Jon George Brookins

Dec. 4, 1957 – March 22, 1997



Jon spent his final days in the comfort of the Waller Street home he shared with John Carr, his life partner. As his family and many friends gathered to be with him, fond memories were shared and new bonds were made. The all-too-brief time we had been allowed to know Jon in our lives was suddenly larger, for which we are grateful.

When Jon's spirit was freed from the vessel that could no longer contain it in this world, it passed through family and friends as they touched and soothed him through the end of his painful journey. As he had cheered and charmed our lives, he began healing our deep loss through his metamorphosis.

One of Jon's greatest joys was creating unforgettable dinner parties. It is his wish that donations to Project Open Hand be made in lieu of flowers.

Jim Freedgood

March 31, 1995



You live in our hearts forever – our thoughts daily.

Vincent Michael Harper

May 29, 1966 – March 15, 1997

Vincent was a beautiful man in many ways. He was good-looking, intelligent, goodhearted and fun. He was also my best friend.

I was lucky enough to have loved and been loved by Vincent. I find comfort in knowing that he is by his mother's side now.



er's side now.

Though we will all miss him, our love will never die. I know that his spirit will be with us forever and that the lessons we all will learn from his passing will make up for the loss that

we feel at this time. Laughter, tears, joy and pain – let the process begin. Let's learn and pay attention to them all. There's a reason for this; I believe there has to be.

Farewell, my friend. May your new journey bring you the peace that you deserve and may the memory of your smile shine upon us all, forever.

William G. Haynes

March 14, 1997



After a long and heroic struggle with AIDS, San Francisco has lost a special friend to its community. William G. Haynes passed away peacefully on the morning of Saturday, March 14.

Bill was an energetic, good-humored athlete. He was an avid SF Giants fan. He was extremely involved in the San Francisco Gay Softball League as a player and coach for the Pilsner Inn. Known to his teammates as "The Hag," he enjoyed playing for the Pilsner and brought the Pilsner Penguins to its first championship in 1995. This led to a bid to compete in the National Gay Softball Championships, where Pilsner placed ninth in the nation.

Bill is survived by his two cats, Tom and Jerry; his mother, Jo; brother, Bob; sister-in-law, Allyson; and his two nieces, Erica and Ali – not to mention his numerous friends. He was a bartender at Badlands in the Castro for a number of years. There will be a celebration of The Hag's life at the Pilsner Inn on Church Street on Sunday, April 13, at 4 p.m.

Kurtis Leon Kobow

March 9, 1997

Kurtis Leon Kobow died March 9 in Mendocino County. He was 35.

Kurtis is survived by five brothers, two sisters, and 17 nieces and nephews. He leaves many of his closest friends in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Kurtis was a resident of Watsonville and Santa Cruz before moving to San Francisco in 1987. He went to college in SF and worked at Dunhill of London, Bechtel Corp. and Bank of America before moving to Laytonville in 1994.

David Magennis

February 1962 – March 1997

The joyful energy of David Magennis left us on Tuesday, March 18. His body followed on Friday, March 21. A



native San Franciscan, David was a graduate of SF State. He worked with Empire Tours and Royal Viking cruise line and later owned A Passage to Adventure travel agency.

David's child-like enthusiasm and trust could get him into trouble; for two years he was embroiled in a legal struggle which was chronicled by the B.A.R. Unsubstantiated charges caused the title of San Francisco Leather Daddy's Boy, which he won in 1993, to be taken away from him. By the time his good name was legally cleared, his title year had long passed, and a shadow had dimmed the honor of our community.

An amazingly upbeat soul, David did not let this dominate his life. Even after having to go on disability from his job at Levi Strauss, he continued to work on renovating the home and garden that he shared with his partner of nine years, Steven Miller.

David was known for his freckled face, red hair and natural perkiness. Always eager to help others, he was often seen at the SF Eagle and involved in many community organizations. He will be missed for his sunshine and delicate goodness. A celebration of his life is planned for Saturday, April 5.

Rory Clayton Ransom (Rohr)

Nov. 1, 1958 – Feb. 18, 1997



Rory Clayton Ransom (Rohr), 38, a gifted artist, passed away Tuesday, February 18, in Santa Rosa. He is survived by his mother, Christine Bailey; his siblings, Dane, Andrea, Terina, Gina, Kim and Tony; Uncle Earn and Aunt Joyce; his life and business partner, Christopher Brockway; and countless friends.

Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, Rory relocated to the San Diego area. After graduating from Vista High School, he continued his passion for art at Palomar College. He then moved to San Francisco and graduated from the Art Institute.

After running the Diego Rivera Art Gallery, Rory produced fine and commercial airbrush art for the music industry, theatre and ballet. Eventually he and Christopher opened their own airbrush gallery. He spent the last year painting his own art while living with Christopher on a beautiful farm in Forestville. His struggle through two illnesses is testimony to his strength, lust for life and fun. His creative soul will be forever missed.

Funeral and burial services were held on Monday, February 24, at Eternal Hills in Oceanside, Calif. A memorial party will be held on Sunday, March 30, at 6305 River Rd., Forestville, CA 95436 at 1 p.m. Call 707/578-4513 for more details.

Experts acknowledge AIDS
is a disease of young and old

United Press International

Statistics are proving what AIDS activists have long predicted: HIV disease is reaching across all boundary levels to affect every segment of society. The latest research focuses on ages.

Researchers at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies and the Harvard AIDS Institute noted in a report released Tuesday, March 25 that half of all new HIV infections occur among people under the age of 25, and that AIDS is now the sixth leading cause of death among people 15 to 24 years old.

Two weeks earlier, an expert on aging at the University of Illinois at Chicago said health professionals and the public aren't giving enough attention to the increasing problem of AIDS in older Americans.

Nathan Linsk, an associate professor of social work at UIC and director of the Midwest AIDS

Training and Education Center, is co-founder of the National Association of HIV Over 50. In his announcement, he pointed out that between ten and 15 percent of all AIDS cases reported in the United States occur in people over age 50.

And as improved AIDS medications continue to lengthen patients' lives, Linsk predicted "it will no longer be unusual to live for 20 years or more with AIDS. Instead of a terminal disease, it will become more of a chronic illness, like hepatitis or diabetes."

Linsk recently interviewed 15 people, ages 52 to 72, some of whom had been HIV-positive for more than a decade. He found most were skeptical of traditional aging services programs, which generally aren't set up to help people with AIDS.

Others reported "extreme isolation and loneliness as the majority of their support system is deceased or alienated from them," he said.

The new report on youth and HIV from the CDC and Harvard, entitled "Dangerous Inhibitions: How America Is Letting AIDS Become An Epidemic of the Young," shows there are different problems associated with reaching younger people, including the continuance of outdated and irrelevant policies.

Its researchers called for a targeted emergency effort, and urged school-based sex education and condom availability within schools; increased government funding for programs targeting adolescents; and a private sector effort to market HIV prevention.

Thomas Coates, director of the AIDS Research Institute and Center for AIDS Research at UC San Francisco, said, "Misguided prevention policies are literally costing us the lives of our young generation. Every hour, at least two Americans under the age of 25 become infected with HIV." ▼

The USA: an underdeveloped country for AIDS prevention

But experts agree on what's needed

by Bill Snow, ACT UP/
Golden Gate Writers Pool

On February 11-13, I participated in an arcane ritual known as a National Institutes of Health Consensus Development Conference, which was the 104th such conference since 1977. These conferences bring interested parties together at a large public meeting with the purpose of reaching general agreement about whether a given medical technology is safe and effective. The previous conference, a few weeks before, was a very contentious one about breast cancer screening that made the front pages. Over 50,000 notices were sent for the HIV conference in February, and about a thousand people registered. This particular conference was convened to determine if behavior change programs have been found to reduce behavioral risks of HIV infection, and if so how risk-reduction can be implemented effectively, and what research is still most urgently needed.

These meetings have the format of a scientific court. About ten scientists and a few non-scientists like myself—outside the field but with related expertise—are asked to review the research before the meeting and listen to a day of presentations by researchers and the public, after which they and the audience can ask questions or make comments. Finally the panel spends an afternoon and evening drafting answers to the consensus questions. On the third morning the draft is read to the audience, which can suggest changes, and there is a press conference, with the final consensus statement traditionally published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. The conferences are sponsored by several interested NIH Institutes but managed by the independent Office for Medical Applications of Research.

Consensus on prevention

As you might imagine, there has been a great deal of research about how to help people change their HIV risk behaviors, and the

panel reviewed over 120 recently published articles. In its report, we took a very strong stand calling for government and policy leaders at all levels to reverse policies that place the public at risk and to take the lead in implementing proven, lifesaving public health strategies. The consensus statement emphasizes that it is of utmost importance that HIV prevention policy be based wherever possible on scientific information, which, it says, occurs too little.

"AIDS is a preventable disease, and the behavior placing the public health at greatest risk may be occurring in legislative and other decision-making bodies," said panel chairman David Reiss, MD. The report focused on three areas where public policy is in direct conflict with scientific findings: needle exchange, drug treatment programs, and sex education.

The panel strongly recommends lifting restrictions on the use of government funds for needle exchange programs and the legalization of pharmacy sales of sterile injecting equipment. This recommendation led Health Secretary Donna Shalala to step halfway toward freeing of government funds for needle exchange by declaring that the programs have scientific merit. She still has to acknowledge that they don't increase drug use, even though the panel stated that this too has already been proven.

The panel criticized the downward trend of Federal funding of drug treatment programs and urged that this course be reversed. Drug treatment programs that employ methadone maintenance, outpatient drug-free treatments, residential treatment, or detoxification not only decrease drug use, but also substantially reduce the frequency of using shared needles among drug users.

The panel also concluded that education efforts that focus on safer sex practices (rather than abstinence-only programs, which have been awarded \$50 million of special funding by Congress) are effective in reducing risky sexual behavior in adolescent and adult populations, and that current laws

should be changed to allow the Federal funds to go for such programs.

Unusual ovation

Since the evidence presented suggests that some of the most powerful effects on HIV risk behavior have been produced by legislative and regulatory changes, the panel stated that social policy, legal change, and community mobilization are legitimate areas of inquiry by the Institutes of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. When the draft report was read, it prompted an unusual standing ovation from the audience of AIDS researchers, health experts and community activists in attendance, and backlash statements from various conservative spokesmen.

One of the panel's questions was to decide if self-reported changes in behavior, which many of the studies use as their endpoint measure, actually lead to a reduction in HIV. This is a controversial question, since studies that would measure actual infections (instead of reported behavior) must be done where seroconversion rates are high, in very large studies with thousands of participants, or in very long studies. Almost all such studies have

been conducted in the developing world. Here in the United States, very few seroincidence studies could be conducted, since they would be very costly and require large resource commitment. They would, however, allow researchers to validate the accuracy of reported behavior changes, which some have questioned. The panel said that direct measurement of HIV infection is a feasible outcome measure for some programs, but, just as the Food and Drug Administration conditionally approves experimental drugs in emergency situations, the urgency of the AIDS epidemic justifies the need for implementing behavior change programs based on reported outcomes when the studies have been randomized, controlled, and shown substantial changes. The panel also gave credit to community-based organization and identified a pressing need for community organizations, researchers, and program evaluators to work together.

Finally, the report cited that the most powerful effects on HIV risk behavior have been produced by legislative and regulatory effort

almost entirely outside the United States. Cities such as Toronto, Sydney, Glasgow, Lund, and, in the U.S., Tacoma have kept HIV infection rates low by having policies that make sterile needles

available for IDUs and by boosting education aimed at risk reduction, making condoms more available, and enhancing programs for the treatment of STDs. A national campaign in Switzerland to promote the use of condoms dramatically reduced risk behavior, and regulations on the use of condoms by sex workers in Thailand also led to fewer unprotected sex acts with impressive results. One panel member was heard to comment off the record that the U.S. is an underdeveloped country when it comes to HIV prevention.

Having participated on this panel, I would like to think that its work will have some influence on the dysfunction between science and policy in the U.S., especially surrounding AIDS. But the real work now is to develop leadership, share and use research findings, and make linkages between scientists, communities, voters, and policy makers. ▼



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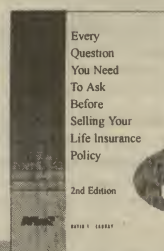
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ACTION UPDATE

Call the water department

On May 12, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission will vote on a measure intended to protect San Francisco residents from cryptosporidium. The commission is considering whether to end the practice of allowing cattle, a known source of the deadly parasite, to graze on city property in the San Francisco watershed. Some public health officials have linked cattle feces to large waterborne crypto outbreaks, including the 1993 Milwaukee outbreak which sickened 403,000 people and killed more than 100.

Please contact Commission President Dennis Normandy at (415) 554-3155, or by fax at (415) 554-3161, or by mail at 1155 Market St., SF 94103 and ask him to get the cattle away from our drinking water!

Announcing AIDS housing complaint line

The AIDS Services Accountability Project (ASAP) is a new organization. Our mission is to hold AIDS Service Providers accountable. If you or someone you know is having problems with an AIDS Service Provider, particularly involving housing issues, we want to hear from you. The toll-free number is (888) 583-3411.

To contact ACT UP/Golden Gate, write 519 Castro Street #93, San Francisco CA 94114; phone: (415) 252-9200; fax: (415) 252-9277; e-mail: actup@actupgg.org; web: <http://www.actupgg.org>. ACT UP/Golden Gate is not affiliated with "ACT UP/San Francisco."

Of pep rallies and bonfires

by Jim Provenzano

ITEM: A judge has set a March 28th hearing date for Colorado high school wrestling coach Mike Tate, who is accused of grabbing a 17-year-old student by the testicles. The wrestler, who said Tate grabbed his groin while he was roughhousing with other boys at practice, now has a 30 percent chance of being sterile, according to his doctor. Tate is charged with felony second-degree assault, which could lead to a two-to-eight-year prison term and would probably keep him from ever coaching again.

ITEM: Police in Victoria, British Columbia have charged another former hockey coach with sexually assaulting a young player ten years ago. The newest charges were made after an adult complained of being abused by Richard Lorne Hall between September 1986 and May 1987, when Hall was a volunteer coach with the Victoria Minor Hockey Association on Vancouver Island and the hockey player was 13 years old.

In January, Boston Bruins right wing Sheldon Kennedy accused his boyhood coach, Graham James, of sexually molesting him more than 300 times. A Canadian court sentenced James to 3 1/2 years behind bars.

In February, a 77-year-old Canadian man was charged with sexually assaulting young basketball players 25 years ago.

You've read, or bought, or rented the fantasies. You may have read the reactions to my mentioning these fantasies, and variant interpretations on them. You may have read how easily one humorless mind, like a character in *The Crucible*, can so quickly spring to accusative action when a witch has been found.

I am comfortable, and quite familiar, with the defensive posture, and therefore will continue the debate. In the words of Anthony Keidis, "I will be your heretic."

The fantasy of sex leaves everybody happy. The reality can be less pleasant. Some might think, in a perfect world, the opportunity for a coach to teach a young gay kid about sexuality, if he's interested, in an egalitarian sexual space would be a great thing, provided your coach is Tony Danza.

An empire of porno caters to these desires, so there must be something there, some power, some shamanistic manhood rite of passage we all have to pass through.

But as the overloaded panels of neurotics on the *Sally Oprahue* circuit attest, the real thing can leave kids damaged. You want to kill the guy who abused you, but years later.

Another wave of posed shock swept through the media last month as the story of Sheldon Kennedy unfolded (see above). Kennedy's story sent his boyhood coach, Graham James, to 3 1/2 years of jail for sexually molesting him over 300 times over ten years ago.

"This should serve as a wake-up call," cried North American Hockey League Commissioner Tom Anastos, in a *USA Today* article. "We need to get our heads

out of the sand."

I would amend the placement of the heads, but tend to agree, especially regarding hypocrisy of any kind in the sexuality among athletes, coaches, or anybody else.

Incipient closet

Perhaps this subject was discussed at the recent gathering of the American Football Coaches Association in Orlando last month. Over 5,000 coaches got together for awards luncheons and a Coach of the Year Banquet.

I wonder how busy things were in the hotels where all these manly men were staying. With 5,000 coaches, our homo estimate makes for around 500 actual homosexual men among the ranks. I'm considering this after re-reading *The David Kopay Story*, which, while no great literary tome, exposes parts of the corporate football industry for what it is, a den of hypocritical hatred and repressed homoerotic tendencies.

But considering the great silent closet of athletics, where simple logic tells us that anyone who chooses to make a locker room his office might as well be gay, I'd say more than just discussion was going on in those coaches' hotel rooms. Perhaps it will take some sort of Tailhook scandal to expose that aspect of athletics and its incipient closet.

But will revised scrutiny improve any situation? For gay people, the molestation charges against manipulative coaches just puts us closer to more suspicion. A study conducted by a University of Winnipeg sociology professor of Canadian national team athletes in all sports found that 20% of respondents had slept with an authority figure in sports. 8% reported forced sexual intercourse with someone in authority.

Almost all interviewees were men. That's a lot of gay sex going on.

Let's face it, most authority figures in sports have dicks. In fact, many are dicks. So you've got a lot of power-hungry closet cases wielding their power and forcing themselves on athletes.

Reaction to this campaign of outrage is what sets me to worry about others. To the closeted coaches I know, who can't come out for fear of accusations, the idea, the association of all this takes on McCarthyesque proportions. Some people don't know the difference between a gay man and a pederast. That's when people start getting fired, or jailed. That's when world-class athletes like David Kopay can't get a coaching job.

For many, being under the tutelage of a David Kopay would be an athlete's dream, and for many others, a wet dream.

Gay kids need gay coaches

If I'd had a coach like David Kopay, instead of the lummoxes and Bible-thumping cretins at my school, I can guarantee you I'd be

Ice, ice, baby

The Fourth Annual Slide For Pride, a gay and lesbian figure skating competition hosted by Team Seattle, will be held the weekend of April 12, along with Team Seattle's winter sports festival, which includes ice hockey and skiing events. Another figure skating competition will be held the weekend of May 16. For more information, call Lisa Labrecque at (415) 641-5392.



Locker room lecture.

writing this column from the press box of Giants Stadium. It is the closet, and homophobia, that prevented this potential in all of us.

Gay kids deserve to have the opportunities to have gay coaches as much as straight kids. To a gay kid a straight coach can be the threat. Take, for example, the highly homophobic coach of a nearby wrestling team for a certain state college. Forget the sex angle in this guy's case. I'm talking about rampant homophobia, coded, allowed, and encouraged. I'm talking about the damage it's doing on the bodies and minds of gay students and athletes, there and elsewhere.

It's as much of a risk as a straight guy coaching a girl's basketball team, or a woman coaching a tennis team of both genders, and being a lesbian, or bisexual, whatever.

The myth that coaches and athletes live in a pristine world outside of sexuality, drugs, and other problems perpetuates the false sense of shock that is used in articles like the *USA Today* stories about poor defenseless hockey players.

Is my cynicism perhaps perpetuated by blurring the lines between sexuality and abuse? Perhaps. Are the numerous tales of boys and their coaches, fictionalized and fantasized to every heart's content in porno and friction fiction, a problem or a problem-solver? That answer is probably reflected in the magazine collection of each of you readers.

Take a look at your own sexuality before telling others what they can and can't fantasize about.

And while we're flipping through other magazines, take a look at some of those ads that verge on pornography; naked babies in the arms of daddies, teens who once performed in jack-off videos now smiling broadly in sportswear ads.

A culture that parades youth around for marketing purposes, such as Closet Klein, Tommy Hilfagger, and the entire world of fashion; a culture that sells millions of copies of magazines like

Teen Beat and *Boy*; a culture that calls the strutting of tarted-up, doomed pre-pubescent girls in cotton candy hair a Beauty Pageant, should not be so surprised when kids are victimized. The Puritanical psychosis of American culture creates an atmosphere of abuse. You can bottle it up here or there, but it's gonna come out somewhere.

What is so surprising about Sheldon Kennedy's case is the length of the relationship, and how a hockey player, a sport known for its adherence to violence, was unable to at least whack the guy with a stick, was merely, as

one of my rabid critics described, "defenseless."

Had he been abused by a woman, it would already be optioned for a Movie of the Week. But since it was a homosexual relationship, the result is only too obvious.

It used to happen all the time in Greece. Then, it was called culture.

But now we live in a Judeo-Christian American world where that is a crime punishable by death, so let us all burn the witch and move on to a place of good thoughts and healing. Praise God and pass the hot dogs! ▼

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212253

The following person(s) are doing business as MINI BLIND MAIDS, 40 Gaven St. #4, San Francisco, CA 94134: Larry J. Fields, 40 Gaven St. #4, San Francisco, CA 94134. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Larry Fields. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 13, 1997. March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211836

The following person(s) are doing business as TOP DECK CRUISES, 2265 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114: BCC Travel, Inc. (CA), 2265 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of February 26, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Daniel R. Billings, Sec/Treasurer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 26, 1997. March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212186

The following person(s) are doing business as MIKE MOBILE, 3810 Noriega St., San Francisco, CA 94122: Michael Richard Trealy, 3810 Noriega St., San Francisco, CA 94122. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 12, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Mike Trealy. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 12, 1997. March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 985225

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of MICHAEL ANDREW YACKOWSKI for change of name. The application of MICHAEL ANDREW YACKOWSKI for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that MICHAEL ANDREW YACKOWSKI has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to MICHAEL ANDREWS. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear

before this Court in Department X-4 on the 29th day of April, 1997, at 9 o'clock A.M., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 11th day of March, 1997. March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212530

The following person(s) are doing business as 1. BARBARY COAST BREWING, 2. BARBARY COAST BREWERY, 3. BARBARY COAST BREWING COMPANY, 527 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond, CA 94801: Barbary Coast Brewing Company, LLC (CA), 527 Washington Avenue, Point Richmond, CA 94801. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of July 31, 1995. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Signed Deborah Hall. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 24, 1997. March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212512

The following person(s) are doing business as INSTITUTE OF HOLISTIC HEALTH, 3928 17th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114: Steven Joseph Ziemba, 3928 17th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 24, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Steven J. Ziemba. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 24, 1997. March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212346

The following person(s) are doing business as VOX POP 77 Federal St., 2nd floor, San Francisco, CA 94107: Christine Triano, 1600 Fell St., #109, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 1, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Christine Triano. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 17, 1997. March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 1997.

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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211804

The following person(s) are doing business as THE JEWEL THEATRE, 655 Geary St., San Francisco, CA 94102: Nathaniel Frederick Roberts, 1420 Shrader St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 13, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Nathaniel F. Roberts. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 25, 1997.

March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211866

The following person(s) are doing business as MONSEN MEDIA, 557 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114: Maren Monsen, 557 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 27, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Maren R. Monsen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 27, 1997.

March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211264

The following person(s) are doing business as LEATHER ZONE OF SAN FRANCISCO, 2352 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 21, 1995. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Gala I. Zholeno, Corp. officer. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 05, 1997.

March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211830

The following person(s) are doing business as OUR TOWN, 49 Carl St., San Francisco, CA 94117-3917: Peter Mikkel Lundberg, 49 Carl St., San Francisco, CA 94117-3917. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 26, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Peter M. Lundberg. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 26, 1997.

March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211831

The following person(s) are doing business as THE LUNDBERG GROUP, 49 Carl St., San Francisco, CA 94117-3917: Peter Mikkel Lundberg, 49 Carl St., San Francisco, CA 94117-3917. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 26, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Peter M. Lundberg. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 26, 1997.

March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211701

The following person(s) are doing business as HOWARD'S SHOES FOR CHILDREN, Stonestown Galleria, 3251 20th Ave #149, San Francisco, CA 94132: Thomas Howard, Howard's Shoes For Children (CA), 187 Stanford Shopping Ct., Palo Alto, CA 94034. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed T. Howard (V.P.). This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 21, 1997.

March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211731

The following person(s) are doing business as SPECKLED EGG DESIGNS, 4221 20th St. #6, San Francisco, CA 94114: Arthur Scappaticci, 4221 20th St. #6, San Francisco, CA 94114: Mario Valdez, 4221 20th St. #6, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed Arthur Scappaticci. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 21, 1997.

March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211782

The following person(s) are doing business as O'CONNORS, 2629 San Bruno Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134: Kenneth P. Brown, 3215 Camby Rd., Antioch, CA 94509: Carolyn S. Brown, 3215 Camby

Rd., Antioch, CA 94509. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Feb. 21, 1997. This business is conducted by a husband and wife. Signed Kenneth P. Brown. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 25, 1997.

March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT FILE NO. 0194243-00

The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business known as LEATHER ZONE, 2352 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on March 21, 1995. Name and Address of registrant: CONSTRUCTION ZONE INC., 2352 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114. This business was conducted by a corporation. Signed: Gala T. Zholeno.

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the San Francisco County on the date February 05, 1997. Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk Recorder, by Keith Wong.

March 6, 13, 20, 27, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211633

The following person(s) are doing business as SUBSET INC., 21 Columbus Ave., Ste 204, San Francisco, CA 94111-2101: Subst Inc., (CA), 21 Columbus Ave., Ste 204, San Francisco, CA 94111-2101. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Stewart McKenzie. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 18, 1997.

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211938

The following person(s) are doing business as WCAD, 208 Texas St., San Francisco, CA 94107: Walt S. Chambers, 208 Texas St., San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Walt S. Chambers. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 3, 1997.

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211467

The following person(s) are doing business as SAN FRANCISCO DYKE DADDY, 636 Waller St., San Francisco, CA 94117: Ruth E. Kelley, 636 Waller St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of February 12, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Ruth E. Kelley. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 12, 1997.

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212028

The following person(s) are doing business as AFROTEC USA, 280 Sunshine Drive, Pacifica, CA 94044: Deledonio M. Javier, 280 Sunshine Drive, Pacifica, CA 94044: Tessa Galea, 280 Sunshine Drive, Pacifica, CA 94044. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of January 24, 1997. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed C.M. Javier. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 5, 1997.

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212065

The following person(s) are doing business as THE BIBLE STORE, 3801 3rd St., Suite 583, San Francisco, CA 94124: Jasper L. McCargo Jr., 1500 McRinnon Ave., San Francisco, CA 94124. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of March 6, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Jasper L. McCargo. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 6, 1997.

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212033

The following person(s) are doing business as 1. PANDEMONIUM PRESS 2. PAN-PIPES PRESS, 10 Appleton Ave Apt B, San Francisco, CA 94110: George Morten 10 Appleton Ave Apt B, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted

by an individual. Signed George Morten. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 5, 1997.

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 985005

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ELENA NICOLE MONTEZ for change of name. The application of ELENA NICOLE MONTEZ for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that HER name be changed to FELICIA ALVARADO ELIZONDO. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 21st day of April, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this ORDER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 3rd day of March, 1997.

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 985031

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of RICHARD ROBERT SALVITTI, JR. for change of name. The application of RICHARD ROBERT SALVITTI, JR. for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that RICHARD ROBERT SALVITTI, JR. has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to RICHARD BALDEVISO-SALVITTI. Now, therefore, it is hereby

LEGAL NOTICES

ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 29th day of April, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this ORDER be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 4th day of March, 1997.

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 985032

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ROMEO AMADO BALDEVISO, JR. for change of name. The application of ROMEO AMADO BALDEVISO, JR. for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ROMEO AMADO BALDEVISO, JR. has filed an application proposing that HIS name be changed to ROMEO SALVITTI-BALDEVISO. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 29th day of April, 1997, at 9 o'clock AM, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this ORDER be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once a week for four consecutive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 4th day of March, 1997.

March 13, 20, 27, April 3, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212326

The following person(s) are doing business as WEBLETS.COM, 3569 Pierce St., San Francisco, CA 94123: Patricia Corrigan, 3569 Pierce St., San Francisco, CA 94123. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Patricia Corrigan. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 17, 1997.

March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212323

The following person(s) are doing business

as GARDENVIEW PRODUCTS, 967 Natoma St., San Francisco, CA 94103: 2514: Rolf M. Erickson, 967 Natoma St., San Francisco, CA 94103-2514. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Rolf Erickson. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 17, 1997.

March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211907

The following person(s) are doing business as ZIANS SERVICE, 708 Washington St., Daly City, CA 94015: Todd Wayne Christiansen, 708 Washington St., Daly City, CA 94015: Joyce Christiansen, 708 Washington St., Daly City, CA 94015. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of January 1, 1997. This business is conducted by husband and wife. Signed Todd Christiansen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 28, 1997.

March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 211763

The following person(s) are doing business as DAVIS/SCHWARTZ DESIGN, 49A Walter St., San Francisco, CA 94114: Neal J.Z. Schwartz, 49A Walter St., San Francisco, CA 94114: Diane M. Davis 110 Frederick St. #3, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of January 1, 1997. This business is conducted by co-partners. Signed Diane M. Davis/Neal Schwartz. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on February 24, 1997.

March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 212274

The following person(s) are doing business as CORPORATE TAX SERVICES, 12 Southern Heights Ave., San Francisco, CA 94107: Seda Taysi, 12 Southern Heights Ave., San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of January 1, 1997. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Seda Taysi. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on March 14, 1997.

March 20, 27, April 3, 10, 1997.

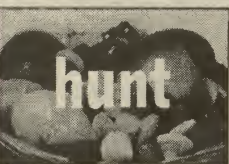
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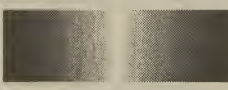
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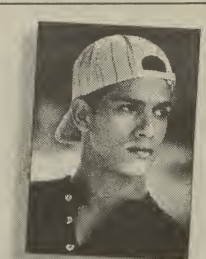
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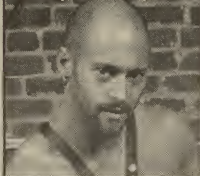
Saturday April 5th

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.



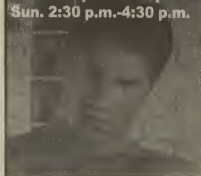
Falcon star Tom Chase
from *Backwoods*, *Stripped*,
Deliverance

12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.



Hot House star Derik Maxx
from *Red Dog Saloon*,
Dildo Boot Pigs

Sat. 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
Sun. 2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.



Falcon star Mike Branson
from *Manhandlers*, *Hardline*

6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.



All Worlds star Gino from
Choke 'Em, *White Hot*, *Why*
Marines Don't Kiss

8:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.



Brush Creek Media star
Jack Radcliffe from
Bear Classic, *Bear Sex Party*

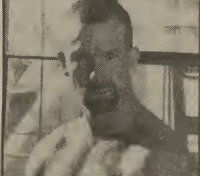
Sunday April 6th

Sat. 2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Sun. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.



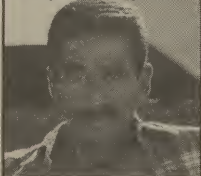
Titan Media star Jack Simmons
from *Naked Escape*

12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.



Hot House star Corey Jay
from *Dildo Boot Pigs*

4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.



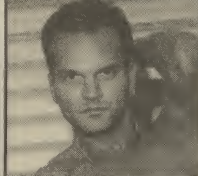
Titan Media star Tony Bullet
from *Get It On Line*

6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.



Hot House star Dan Brewer
from *Bound and Beaten*

8:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.



Zeus Studios star Devon
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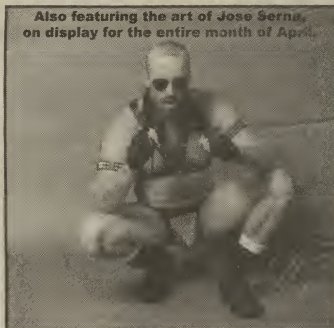
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Carl Dreyer's 'Ordet,' a masterful study of spiritual desolation and redemption, plays the Cinematheque.

page 40

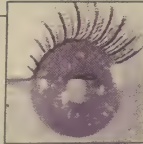
Salerno-Sonnenberg works up big sweat in Davies Hall recital.

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Spirit of James Bond pervades Refusalon's 'Shaken not Stirred.'

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

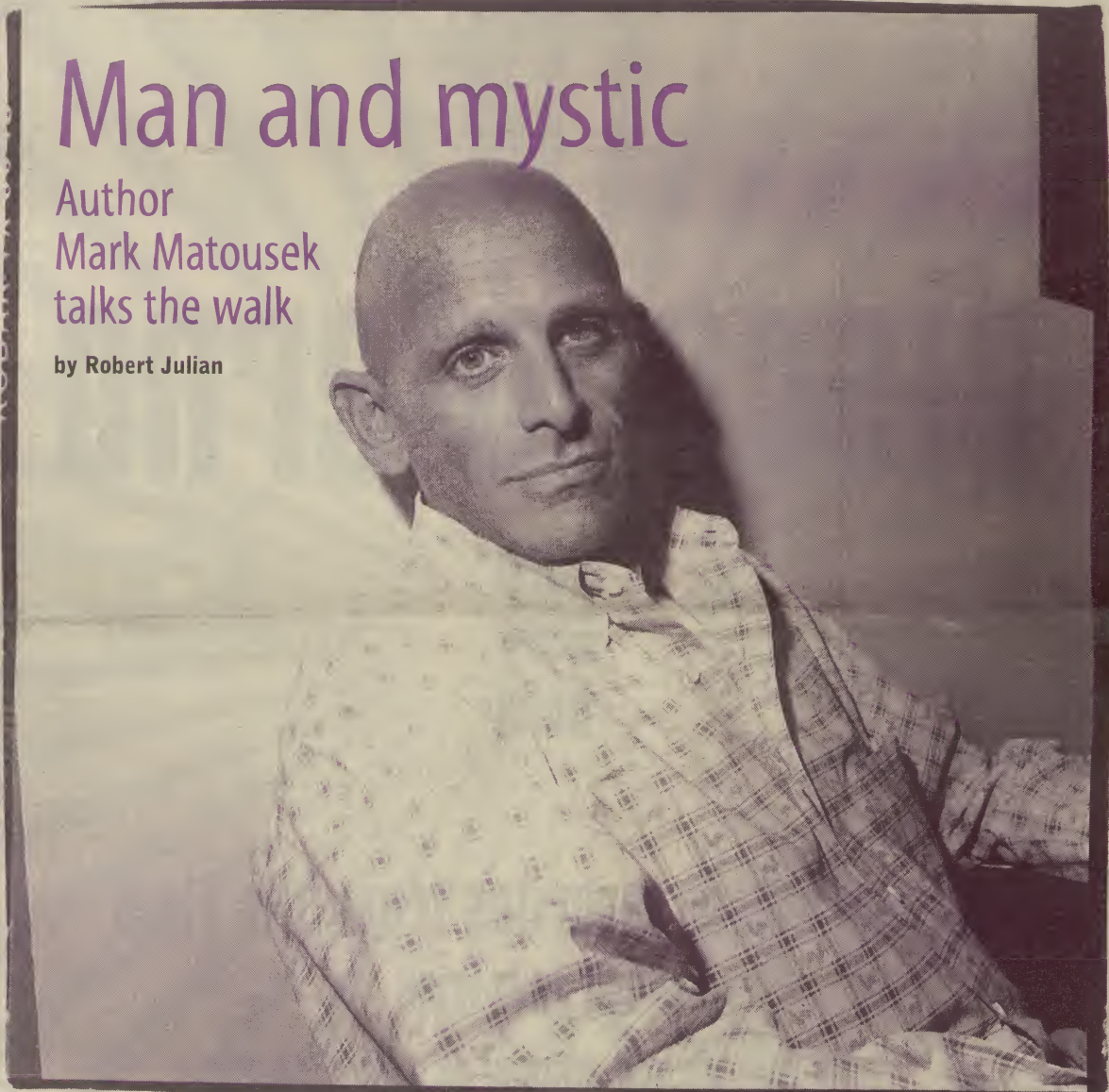
BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 27 • No. 13 • 27 March 1997

Man and mystic

Author
Mark Matousek
talks the walk

by Robert Julian



Mark Matousek is in the middle of the first draft of his second book. Like his first, *Sex Death Enlightenment*, it is also a memoir, but not a sequel. "I want it to be sort of a chorus — a group memoir about all of us who are trying to learn to love ourselves, and each other." The author, wearing chinos and sporting a shaved head, has an iconoclastic appearance appropriate for one who has gone from senior editor at Andy Warhol's *Interview* magazine to spiritual seeker on the backroads of India.

Sex Death Enlightenment, now being released in paperback, details Matousek's remarkable journey from a dismal childhood in Los Angeles through the wildly erotic pre-AIDS era in Manhattan, and, finally, to his own spiritual fulfillment over the last dozen years. It is an extraordinary and wonderful book, filled with sophisticated prose enlight-

ened introspection, and blessed by the unique experience of a gay man who has always lived life on the edge. In spite of the demands of his second book tour, Matousek is energetic and enthusiastic as he settles into a chair at the Pan Pacific Hotel and is hit with the first question.

Robert Julian: What have you learned about yourself since you finished writing this book?

Mark Matousek: It's been a huge education. I wanted to write this book for many years. It was germinating for a long time, then when it finally came together, it was like a dream come true. I had a publisher who believed in

me and treated me well. Like anyone who gets what they always wanted, I found there were two sides to it. There was a very fine line between wanting the work to be bought and read and wanting to be a star.

I learned that desire is an incredibly volatile and dangerous thing, if it's not checked by some kind

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The idea of complete detachment is sublime but unrealistic. I've learned to stop talking in absolutes. Like a lot of people who first discover spirituality, I was enamored of a consciousness that was not attached.

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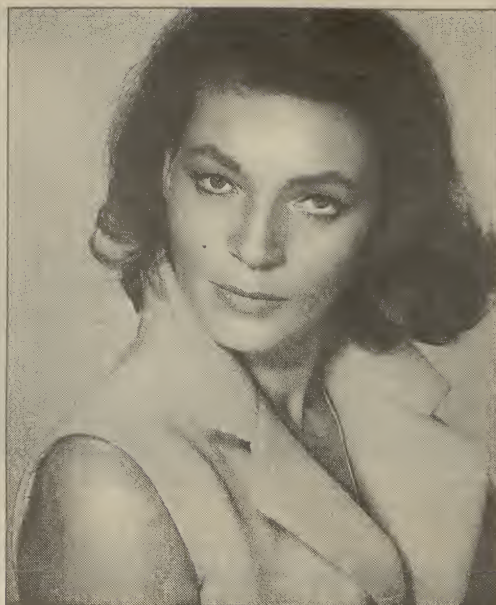
There were certainly a lot of long faces at Monday night's Oscar ceremony in LA, perhaps none longer, though, than **Lauren Bacall's** after she lost to that sweet **Juliette Binoche**. You couldn't help but notice the glaring disparity between the pre- and post-loss Lauren. Never has a smiling, confident, aristocratic "great lady" of the silver screen been so easily and savagely reduced to an icy gaze and a tight-lipped smirk, the countenance of a diva scorned. When the camera intermittently panned to Loser Bacall after her crushing defeat, capturing her sullen gaze for evil posterity, we were convinced that either a gaggle of very vicious queens was having a great time running the show or that, perhaps, this Moment With Lauren had been engineered from above as a particularly mean-spirited act of Hollywood revenge.

The latter notion is not so far-fetched. Readers may remember a certain *Vanity Fair* article a couple years ago penned by *Examiner* film critic **Barbara Shulgasser** that suggested Bacall was not an easy person to work with on the set of *Ready to Wear*, whose screenplay Shulgasser penned. This wouldn't be the first time the actress was rumored to be difficult. Stories abound about her bitchiness, about how she's been a back-stabbing grudge-holder since the 1940s. Though Bacall has outlived a lot of people in Hollywood, it's quite possible there are a few old geezers still lurking around the Academy (most of the voting members are retired actors) who've not forgotten some slight from the past, and perhaps Monday's debacle was their way of having a little fun.

Never again!

Oh my! What local columnist whose pseudonym is not unlike the name of a famous screaming rock star is rumored to have been so excited about being nominated for a Cable Car Award that she stuffed the ballot box with votes for herself! Well, it is only a rumor, it's true, but someone bearing an uncanny resemblance to this purple paragraphist was seen leaving the B.A.R.'s front office last week loaded down with copies of the issue bearing the official CCA ballot. Hmmm. Wonder if it had any effect on the outcome?

Maybe there was a lot of ballot-box stuffing going on behind the scenes at this year's Cable Car Awards? Something has to explain how certain folks walked away with prizes at last Saturday's stupendously boring, tacky, and completely inaudible awards ceremony at the Gift Center. Our grouching about the Cable Car Awards is nothing new. We've trashed this annual clique fest before, only never has this brainless charade seemed more ripe for an upbraiding than now. Really, who thinks up those nebulous categories like Man and Woman of the Year? Furthermore, what are we to make of those absurdly generalized writing awards? Isn't there a difference between a theatre critic and an art critic, a book critic and a music critic? And isn't it strange that while this event has categories singling out excellence in journalism and criticism, there are no awards for design and photography? Does the look of a



Lauren: in better days.

newspaper will itself into existence?

Dreckie O.

We're quite sure that if pseudo-intellectual **Wayne Koestenbaum**, master of the queer ghetto wheeze, were living in San Francisco, his literary efforts would no doubt earn plenty of plaudits from the cliché-mongering Cable Car people. So porific tomes like *The Queen's Throat* push all the right buttons, don't ya know. But apparently Mr. K's dog-and-pony show is beginning to

show signs of premature aging. The *SF Chronicle's* music critic, **Joshua Kosman**, traveled to Houston's Grand Opera last week to hear **Jackie O.** **Michael Dougherty's** two-act "snoozer" set to a libretto by Mr. Koestenbaum. "The only good news from the premiere is that the budding genre of bio-opera is going to have to improve from here on out," Kosman wrote, adding that "it couldn't get much worse." Of Koestenbaum's libretto, the critic wrote, "a fantasia-like miscellany can work on the page [but] formlessness doesn't play too well on the operatic stage."

Take off the blinders

We enjoy Mr. Kosman's reviews. He always speaks his mind and, more importantly, he knows how to tart up his prose with glamorous words like *rodomontade*. But what are we to make of

the *SF Chronicle's* art critic **Kenneth Baker**? That review he penned last week of **Nan Goldin's** photos at Fraenkel Gallery certainly wasn't very charitable. "Nan Goldin's pictures make us glad that photographs are still and silent," Baker droned. "If Goldin's subjects — herself included — could talk, the self-regarding account they would give would put us to sleep." Oh, really?

We shouldn't be too surprised by this glib pan. Baker is a cerebral type. He writes about movements and schools, categories and abstractions, but never about people, about the mysteries of persona, which is Goldin's artistic turf. Baker's comments reveal his fundamental misapprehension of the photographer's work, for, contrary to his take on the show, these photographs *do* speak, and not about "preening, druggie friends," as he put it, but about how beauty and glamour can emerge from unlikely sources, in this case an aging hippie, a precocious teenager, a burned-out drug addict, a laughing hag.

The queen of wet

Our special Out There events correspondent reports that the 20th anniversary party for Good Vibrations last Thursday at the Trocadero was a raucous, jam-packed affair swimming in what **Mister Marcus** refers to as "fetish attire." Highlights included the naughty but nice performances of local funny girl **Marga Gomez** and sex clown extraordinaire **Annie Sprinkle**. At one point La Gomez announced that she was

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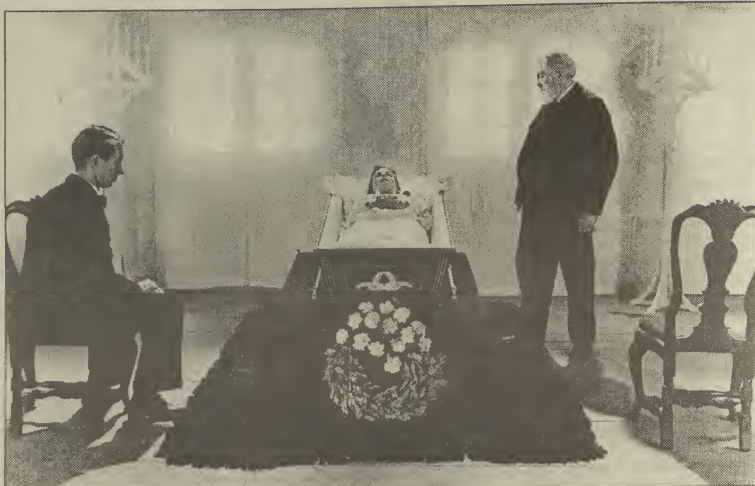
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A scene from Carl Dreyer's *Ordet*.

Death and transfiguration

Carl Dreyer's 'Ordet' at SF Cinematheque

by Gary Morris

Film has always been considered something of a mongrel art form, inherently populist and therefore of dubious aesthetic value. One effect of this bum rap has been a severe lack of standards in ranking films and filmmakers. After the brief A-list of Welles, Renoir, Eisenstein, and a few others, the waters become murky — so much so that essentially minor-league talents like Steven Spielberg and George Lucas are spoken of with the kind of awe that other arts reserve for their grand masters. Literateurs know junk when they see it — who would put Anne Rice in the same league as James Joyce? No music lover would claim Yannick or John Tesh is another Stravinsky. Fans of the visual arts don't argue about whether Jeff Koons occupies the same cultural space as Picasso. Only in film is it axiomatic that commercial success equals artistic value — a fact brought home every year by the Academy Awards.

One grand master who's become a casualty of this confusion is Carl Dreyer, the Danish cineaste best known for his ground-breaking silent film *The Passion of Joan of Arc*. Dreyer made only a handful of films in his 45-year career, and only four acknowledged sound films: *Vampyr*, *Day of Wrath*, *Ordet* (*The Word*), and *Gertrud*. These were independent

films, shot mostly with actors unknown outside Denmark, dismissed as perverse and uncommercial and thus poorly distributed outside Europe. Dreyer's slow, deliberate, gorgeously lit stories about vampires, witch trials, resurrection, faith, and infidelity were mostly rejected as old-fashioned even when they debuted. But more than any director, Dreyer is *sui generis*, and his films now appear among the most daring in cinema.

Dreyer's own history made his status as an outsider inevitable. He was born in 1889, the illegitimate son of a housekeeper who died during a desperate self-in-

young male protégé falls in love with a woman.

In 1927 Dreyer directed the first of his acknowledged masterpieces, the mesmerizing *The Passion of Joan of Arc*. The film, a commercial failure, was considered seminal in its unsparing use of extreme close-ups, and it also established Dreyer's reputation as a tyrant on the set, as he drove his star, Falconetti, into mental collapse in his attempts to get the intensely emotional effects he wanted.

Vampyr (1932) showed another kind of dreamscape of which Dreyer was capable — this time the result, in part, of letting the sun shine on the camera lens dur-

The plight of women oppressed by social norms would form the basis of Dreyer's later work.

duced abortion. Dreyer was raised in a succession of foster homes until he was adopted by a poor family. He recalled his early life as one of material and emotional deprivation. His friend Ebbe Neergaard has been quoted in *World Film Directors* as saying the boy's adopted family "never ceased to let him feel that he ought to be grateful for the food he was given, and that he really had no claim to anything, considering that his mother had managed to escape paying for him by departing this world." Emotional alienation and especially the plight of a woman oppressed by social norms would form the basis of much of his later work.

In 1908, at age 17, he began writing theatre reviews and eventually film reviews, covering Denmark's then-burgeoning film industry. This led to his first screenwriting credit in 1912, and seven years later to his first film, *The President*. After a series of historical melodramas à la Griffith (*Leaves from Satan's Book*) and pastorales (*The Parson's Widow*), Dreyer made *Mikael* (1924) for UFA in Berlin. This is an early gay triangle drama about an eminent painter who loses his inspiration and eventually his life when his

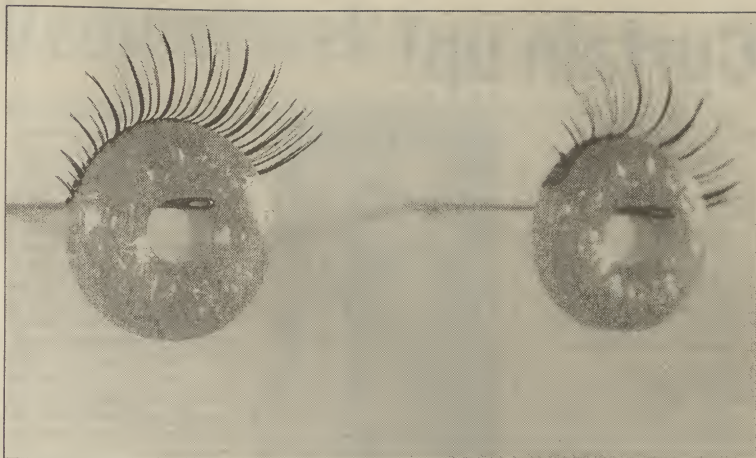
ing shooting. This gave the film an ethereal, otherworldly quality that drew critical praise and, again, commercial indifference. Dreyer's reputation for being argumentative and uncompromising continued to grow, and he was unable to secure funding for any projects for another ten years.

In 1942 he shot a brief educational film about unwed mothers, a subject that recalls his own origins. Chastened after his long hiatus, he delivered the film on time and within budget, and was rewarded with enough money to shoot *Day of Wrath* in 1943. The story is about a 17th-century witch hunt in which a parson's wife, Anne (Lisbeth Movin), tries to save an old woman from being burned at the stake only to end up being denounced herself. Critics at the time read the film as an anti-Nazi allegory, but modern viewers will see more timeless effects in Dreyer's Rembrandt-like lighting, his fluid camera movement, and above all, in the sexually supercharged performance of Lisbeth Movin, whose sensuality is equated with satanic power by the narrow minds around her.

After one disowned feature (*Two People*, 1944) and a string of

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ART



Lifesavers, by Robert Ortbal, 1997

For your eyes only

'Stirred Not Shaken': Refusalon show is aesthetic espionage

by Steven Jenkins

Martinis, high-speed chases, and supermodels with little acting talent and less clothing are nowhere to be found at Refusalon, but like the classic James Bond flicks that have inspired the gallery's new group exhibition *Stirred Not Shaken*, there are snazzy gadgets, suspenseful plot twists, cheeky innuendo, and a few secret-agent thrills. Wreaking linguistic havoc on 007's trademark apéritif, *Stirred Not Shaken* is a surprising Molotov cocktail of a show, mixed with equal measures of humor and horror, and topped with a tangy postmodern olive. Intelligently curated with a flair for the subversive by Permi K. Gill, the exhibition features recent work by 22 California artists whose disparate materials and concerns are deftly manipulated in acts of aesthetic espionage. And because things are not always what they may at first seem, the exhibition establishes an unsettling attraction/repulsion dichotomy that keeps viewers on the lookout for Dr. No.

There's a whole lot of stuff in *Stirred Not Shaken*, yet curator Gill has grouped together mixed-media pieces to stress thematic and stylistic links. Many works address physical entrapment. Near the entrance, Martha Schlitt has constructed a brick wall painted the same white color as the gallery walls; it is both a continuation and an interruption of the space, and the occasional gaps between bricks offer dim yet tantalizing views of an alcove to which we are barred entry. Of course, we want what we cannot have, a truism also visualized by Ben Dean's *Collection*, the enclosed contents of which remain a frustrating mystery in rows of bolted-shut wooden boxes.

The collaborative duo Castaneda/Reiman entrap their own materials in the totemic balancing-act tower of *Dogs Included*, and in *Cup and Saucer* and *Teapot Schlitt* has imprisoned pleasantly curved emblems of civilized domesticity within blocky, unusable molds. Gay Outlaw's *Chalk Cone* is similarly maligned; having been robbed of its functional purpose, it now

masquerades as an *objet d'art*. The deadliest form of entrapment beckons from Paul Gasper's sinister *Raid 1*, which presents instructions and tools for exterminating household intruders (rodents and insects, mind you). Bright poison pellets in Plexiglas cases lure with the promise of delight and reward, and like a booby trap in a Bond caper, they snare the curious who are done in by their own insatiable appetites.

Poison might seep in also through Neil Grimmer's *Post Industrial Therapeutics*, an installation of elaborately hooked-up face masks purporting to flood our senses and calm our spirits with sweet-smelling aromatherapy. Maybe it's just my aversion to New Age practices, but to me Grimmer's inhalers look more threatening than comforting, like crazed Dennis Hopper's poppers source in *Blue Velvet*. Lynchian overtones are also evident in Mari Andrew's *Arbor Real*, an oddly pretty display of magnolia leaves painted royal blue; in Caroline Clerc's *Nipples*, a fungus-like spread of 700 latex and sili-

con glands; and in Robert Ortbal's surreal *Lifesavers*, all-seeing eyes made with candy, pins, and false lashes.

Other works that explore the meaning of body accoutrements are more troubling. While Clerc's wall of fake nipples mocks our cultural obsession with breasts, her *Gossip's Bridle* pieces critique cruel punishments routinely administered to women in the 16th through 18th centuries. The bridles — metal head cages with a plate or spike inserted in the mouth to pin down the tongue — were forced onto women accused of improper speech or sexual impropriety. Suspended from the ceiling and adorned with chains, Clerc's reconstructions of these hideous silencers now resemble wild-side fetish gear. Residue of contemporary body treatment is displayed opposite these bridles in Megan Wilson's repellent *Face-off*, in which hundreds of used facial masks (presumably the artist's) labeled with consecutive days of the week attest to diligent cleansing.

In a big group show like this

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Curtain up!

by Chad Jones

Editor's note: Beginning this week, theatre critic Chad Jones will use this space for a twice-monthly column devoted to discussing coming events, or those ongoing, in San Francisco's theatre and cabaret scenes. Comments and suggestions may be forwarded to Mr. Jones at the E-mail number provided below.

Hi-fi outer space
musical rocks

After the triumphs of *The Cereal Killers* and *The Possession of Mrs. Jones*, D'Arcy Drollinger's *Brite Sleep Trilogy* of original rock musicals comes to a close with the sparkling new *Suburbia 3000*, now playing at the SOMAR Theatre. Renaissance man Drollinger not only wrote the show's music and lyrics, he also stars as Superman, the messiah of the planet Suburbia. The convoluted plot is far too entangled to detail here, but suffice it to say that with Rhoda Morgenstern, Lucille Ball, Elvis, Helen Roper, Gladys Kravitz, Jamie Somers, Betty Rubble, Charlie Brown, and Dorothy Gale on hand, there's enough pop-culture on this stage to fill a dozen camp-rock musicals.

Drollinger's pounding score offers excellent ensemble numbers ("God," "Personality," "Faith") and some juicy power ballads ("A Chance of Loving You"), but there's nothing here that matches the inane brilliance of "Spiritual In My Butt" from last year's *Mrs. Jones*. What this production boasts is improved production values—especially wonderful are the costumes by Kathleen Crowley—and superb musical direction by Richard "Scrumby" Koldewyn, executed by a deft six-man band. Director Charles Herman-Wurmfeld keeps the insanity rolling, though things bog down in the troublesome second act when planet Suburbia goes completely haywire.

The cast is admirably committed to Drollinger's TV-saturated interplanetary *sturm und drang*. Especially good are sweet-voiced Christina Keyes as Dorothy and the intrepid Laura LeBleu as Commander Lucy. For tickets and information, call 995-4667.

From the naked to
the profound

The New Conservatory Theatre is taking a break from its tendency toward queer theatre's more sordid reaches to present Steven Dietz's *Lonely Planet*, one of the most original and enchanting AIDS dramas to emerge during the plague years. While pioneering authors like Larry Kramer and William Hoffman have vented anger about AIDS in

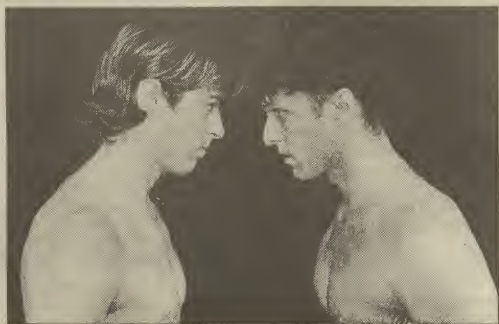
John Hogan and Greg Hoffman in *Lonely Planet*.

plays like *The Normal Heart* and *As Is*, others, like Tony Kushner (*Angels in America*) and Paula Vogel (*The Baltimore Waltz*), and now Dietz, have revealed some of the lyricism amidst the tragedy.

Dietz's *Lonely Planet*, which opens at the New Conservatory April 3, is a somewhat cryptic two-man drama about two friends, Jody and Carl, and their struggle to maintain their friendship and sanity in an AIDS-ravaged world. Set in a map store that slowly begins to fill with the chairs of the dead, *Lonely Planet* is challenging and ultimately quite moving. For more information, call the New Conservatory Theatre at 861-8972.

A tune-up at the
Carnal Garage

Gay performance artist and activist Tim Miller is back for three nights (March 27-29) as part of the on-going Edge Festival. In recent years, Miller has been conducting Gay Men's Performance Workshops at the Highways Performance Space in Santa Monica, and his new show, called *Carnal*

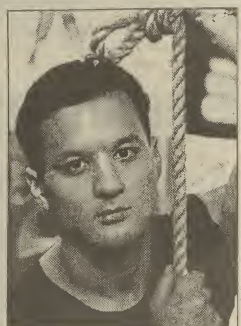
Tim Miller and Alistair McCartney in *Carnal Garage*.

Garage, was developed at that workshop with collaborator Alistair McCartney. The new work involves a small ensemble—a change from Miller's usually solo status—and promises to explore how aspects of contemporary culture both teach and terrorize gay men. An intelligent and appealing performer, Miller has dazzled every time he's performed here, so *Carnal Garage* is worth checking out. On Saturday, Miller will conduct a free performance workshop for gay men. For tickets (\$12) or workshop information, call 824-5044. Performances are at the ODC Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St.

Screw the Oscars!
It's time for BATCC

The Bay Area Theater Critics Circle, an 18-member group made up of newspaper and radio critics, has announced its nomi-

nations for last year's outstanding performances and productions. Among the 172 nominations in dramatic and musical categories, queer theater fared well. Berkeley Repertory Theatre's production of Terrence McNally's *Love! Valour! Compassion!* garnered eight nominations, including best production and two nods for best supporting performance (Laurence Ballard as both of the good/evil twin brothers, and Patrick Kerr as Buzz, the lovable show queen). The Alma Delfina Group's *Pieces of the Quilt* scored supporting actor nominations for Sean San Jose Blackman and



Sean San Jose Blackman

co-star Danny Scheie. The newly created Creatus performance group got off to an auspicious start last summer with its revival of Mart Crowley's *Boys In The Band*, which earned a best principal performance nomination for Louis Parnell's outstanding Michael. Two of the four nominations for outstanding original script are for queer projects: Guillermo Reyes' *Depositing the Divas* and John Fisher's *U.C.: A Farce*. In the solo performance category, which in some years has been almost exclusively gay, Dan

Butler's *The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me* gets the only queer nod.

Winners will be announced at the Awards Gala on Monday, March 31. For more information, call 567-9689.

Once in a musical moon

42nd Street Moon, that intrepid band of musical theater enthusiasts, opens its new season with Irving Berlin's *Face the Music*, a crowd-pleasing gem from 1932 that popularized such tunes as "Let's Have Another Cup of Coffee" and "I Say It's Spinach (And the Hell With It)." This production of the show is the first post-Broadway staging to be authorized by Kitty Carlisle Hart, whose late husband Moss Hart wrote the book for the musical.

next page ►

OPERA

Oedipal trek

'Emmeline': musical dud tells a great story

by Stephanie von Buchau

The press release accompanying the video of *Emmeline*, an opera by Tobias Picker that PBS will air next week on *Great Performances*, calls the work "important and sensational."

The truth is that Picker's score is no more musically sensational or important than most other recent American operas. (*Emmeline* was filmed last summer at its world premiere in Santa Fe.) I just listened to a fine new recording of Douglas Moore's *The Ballad of Baby Doe* (Newport Classics), and I kept thinking, as I did during the Picker opera, that literary respect is musically deadly. Fidelity to the text, usually a lengthy, talky, unpoetic text, doesn't allow the composer to free himself from the numbing task of setting one note to one syllable at a constantly jogging tempo.

Occasionally a voice will break loose into an attractive melisma, but never long enough or forcefully enough to make the sung words seem more significant than if they'd been spoken. It isn't the oft-lamented "lack of melody" that damns these earthbound operatic ventures, but the lack of rhythmic variety. The first act of *Emmeline*, even in its "passionate" love music, is gray and undistinguished. The second act is better only because of its juicy subject matter.

As a musical experience, Picker's opera makes *Cats* sound like Mozart. But as a dramatic experience, *Emmeline* is thrilling. If they'd left out the music, this pre-Civil War story might have made a fascinating film, which is what its author, Judith Rossner, had originally intended. (The libretto is by J.D. McClatchy.)

Emmeline Mosher was apparently a real person, a 13-year-old New England girl sent to work in a textile mill by her impoverished family. The opera opens with one of Emmeline's many siblings being buried. We are sure this is not the first. Nor is it surprising when the handsome, older mill owner seduces the now 14-year-old Emmeline and then abandons her, pregnant.

Her religious aunt intervenes,

Curtain up!

◀ previous page

Face the Music is the first in a six-show season celebrating the work of composers who also wrote their own lyrics. The season's lineup features lesser-known shows by such luminaries as **Hugh Martin** and **Timothy Grey** (1964's *High Spirits*, the musical version of **Noel Coward's** *Blithe Spirit*), **Harold Rome** (1954's *Fanny*), and **Cole Porter** (1941's *Let's Face It and Jubilee*). The season also includes another Berlin gem, the 1940 *Louisiana Purchase*, which had a successful concert staging at Carnegie Hall last year. This ambitious season by one of the bright lights in local theater will run through November. For more information, call 861-8972. ▼

E-mail Curtain Up! at crtup@aol.com. All theater/cabaret comments, suggestions, and information are welcome.

giving the child away. Emmeline goes home in disgrace and years later meets and marries a handsome young man who turns out to be, well, I'm not going to give away the story, but the creators of the opera tell us upfront that this is "the story of Oedipus told from Jacosta's point of view." Their literary pretensions match the composer's musical ones.

Still, Francesca Zambello's stark, cinematic production aims right at the gut, and succeeds mainly on the strength of all-American opera singers, many from the San Francisco Opera's training program. Patricia Racette, who has sung Mimi, Margherita, and Antonia recently for SFO, manages to look both 14 and 35 in the title role. Her Emmeline is ecstatic at the idea of sex with the mill owner and of true love with her young man. Racette is tragic and devastated and mad as a hatter at the end, singing all that ungrateful music with beau-

tiful tone and elegant diction.

Victor Ledbetter is the slick mill owner whose soothing baritone could seduce a far stronger character than the tender, lovelorn Emmeline. Kevin Langan is infuriatingly realistic as the heroine's irresponsible father; you want to scream at him to zip up his fly and take a cold shower.

Anne-Marie Owens, a robust mezzo, makes the born-again aunt as sympathetic as possible, but I didn't care for Curt Peterson's young lover. He's a blond twinkie whom some will think cute, but he tries too hard to be butch. George Manahan conducts. I didn't care for this opera's inoffensive music, but I was riveted by its Gothic tale of incest and emotional poverty. ▼

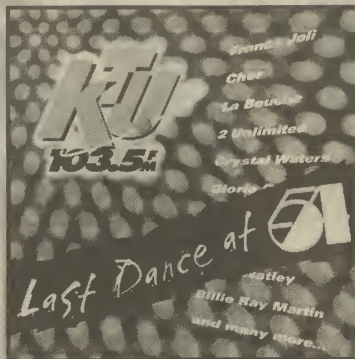
Emmeline will air on PBS' Great Performance series Wednesday, April 2 (check local listings for times).



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Arts cover

of perspective and equilibrium — something that keeps you from identifying completely with what you're doing. Desire itself will burn you up. I found that I was incredibly ambitious, very competitive. I knew that I was ambitious as a writer, wanting to do good stuff. But when you're out there in the world, you find yourself getting very competitive, and sometimes very insecure. I wasn't expecting it. It threw me for a while.

What I'm hearing is that you had

trouble finding the balance between attachment and detachment.

Exactly. I think the idea of complete detachment is sublime, but very unrealistic. Part of what I've learned since I finished this book is to stop talking in absolutes. Like a lot of people who first discover spirituality, I was very enamored of the idea of holiness, the idea of liberation and a consciousness that was not attached. I sort of worshipped people who were on this quest for enlightenment. Since then I've grounded myself. I was punishing myself for being attached. Why wouldn't I be attached? It's my book, and it was really hard to write. You're going

to have attachment, and when someone writes something really bitchy about you, it's going to hurt.

It's obvious the book was hard to write. Anytime you reveal as much of yourself as you did in this book, it's going to be hard.

It was very hard. Writing about yourself can be tough. You have to get human and have a sense of humor about yourself.

How do you define God now?

I think of God as the brain in the body. I think of the cosmos as an organism. I think to question

whether God exists or not is as crazy as questioning whether there is intelligence in the cosmos. Obviously there's an order and a principle here, a driving intelligence. People think of God as supernatural, and metaphysics as somehow being divorced from reality. They aren't. The point is, we don't understand the natural law of the universe. Things that exist outside of our understanding we think of as miraculous. But they aren't.

You relate in the book that, in regards to your own HIV status, someone told you that in your case the virus wasn't strong. How did you use this information?

I used it as evidence that I might not die of HIV. I was thrilled. Here was a very renowned doctor telling me that the virus wasn't eating me alive. This was before treatments had turned things

eradicate evil.

There is a Christian quote about the evil of the day ...

"Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." I love that passage.

It implies that if you engage evil, it can make things worse.

Exactly. The trick is to look inward and find the evil in yourself — and have a relationship with that. Before you try to have a relationship with the evil in others, have a relationship with the evil in yourself. I don't know that you can actually be effective unless you've done the work on yourself.

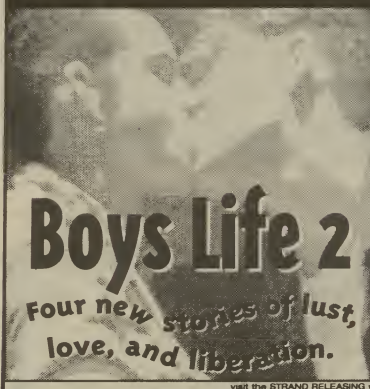
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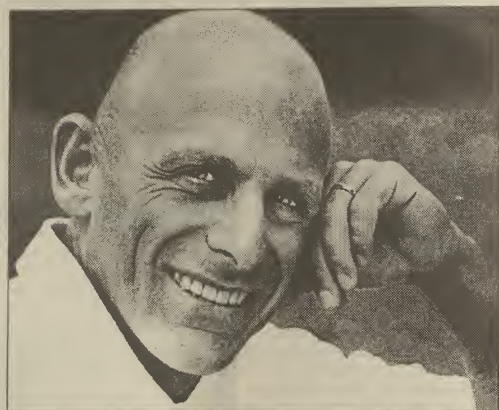
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around. It was really month to month. Part of me was preparing to get sick, but part of me said we didn't have all the information, yet and that HIV might not turn out to be as universally fatal as people thought.

Jerry Jampolsky in Marin County runs the Center for Attitudinal Healing. One of the founding principles of the organization is a quote from the Bible, "Perfect love casteth out all fear." What meaning does this have for you?

It's more beautiful than anything you can imagine. That kind of love is rare, but it's the kind of love you aspire to. I get glimmers of it. In those moments, I don't have fear — of anything. It's rare, and it's what you live for. Practice helps me a lot. I sit, I do Yoga, and when I practice I can get to that place where I feel that love.

Buddhists say, "That which we resist, persists." Christian philosophy says, "Resist not evil." As a community, have we resisted AIDS too much?

No, I don't think so. How can you not resist something that is causing so much suffering? The normal instinct is to resist and to fight and to despair.

But if it's true that "that which we resist persists," how does resistance serve us?

I think it doesn't serve in the long run. You aspire to acceptance and surrender, but when injustice exists in the world, you have to fight against it. At the same time, you have to acknowledge that it may continue. You acknowledge that evil is there and do everything you can to work for the good. Individually, we're not strong enough to

tive. My feeling was that they weren't effective in accomplishing something positive and that they weren't very kind to themselves. I thought they must be paying a tremendous personal price in their own lives for engaging in this type of struggle.

Some people are only happy when they're fighting. And I think that there is a benefit to that as long as you realize that you are both the enemy and the ally — you're on both sides. It's weird that people are so simplistic about their own natures. They actually think they are innocent and that they're fighting evil. That's where righteousness and fundamentalism come from.

One of your spiritual guides in India told you that the pantheon of Hindu gods is interpreted differently by different people. Sophisticated people see them as metaphors while others take them literally.

Right.

In dealing with religious fundamentalism, how do we refrain from becoming narrow-minded zealots who have only literal interpretations of religious dogma?

I think where you draw the line is when it impacts on other people. Everyone has the right to believe in whatever speaks to them personally. When, as a group, you oppress other people as a result of ideas based upon your interpretation of the law, or what God is, it's not fine. You can think God is a zebra, but if you start beating people up who think God is a giraffe, then you're in trouble. There's nothing wrong with fundamentalists who mind their own business. ▼

INTERVIEW

Heart and mind

Rafael Campo is both poet and physician

by Sarah Van Arsdale

On Valentine's Day last month, Rafael Campo brought his compassion, poetry, and finely wrought words about the healing power of writing to A Different Light Bookstore, where he read an essay from his new book about the death of a friend and fellow writer. Campo said he chose the material with Valentine's Day in mind because "healing is so much about love and desire." Campo read easily, with the steady patience of a physician and the respect for words of a poet, the two selves he brings to bear on all his work.

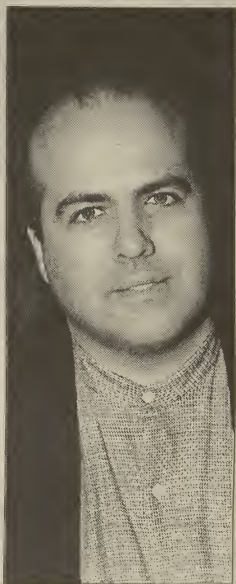
It wasn't always so easy for this young writer, however. As a gay Latino growing up in the predominantly white world of Upper Saddle River, New Jersey, he had the usual struggles of coming out and claiming his identity, a process that was further complicated by his decision in school to study medicine and poetry, the two seemingly divergent interests Campo has elegantly brought together in his new book, *The Poetry of Healing*.

Campo's book addresses the difficulties of integrating one's many identities, and follows his journey through the mazes of self-denial and self-hatred to the clear path of self-awareness. The work winds through questions about identity, the place of poetry in art, and the role of the physician as healer. The essays are the best kind of prose, richly informed by Campo's training as a poet, elegantly detailed and emotionally layered.

For Campo, 32, poetry has been a life preserver, the thing that has saved him from being swallowed up into the often dehumanizing world of medical training. It is also the thing that made him aware of his gayness. When he first began studying poetry as an undergraduate at Amherst College in the mid-'80s, Campo found that being a poet was "not only not a profession" but was almost always considered "kind of sissyish."

"Writing poetry," he told me in a recent interview, "was very strongly associated with gayness." Somehow, despite the homophobic world of Amherst College, Campo met his beloved, Jorge Arroyo, and the two are still together 13 years later.

Although energized by the discoveries he was making about



Rafael Campo

himself as a writer at Amherst, the pressure to study medicine proved stronger than Campo's interest in poetry, so the frustrated young writer packed off to Harvard Medical School. In retrospect, Campo now wonders if his pursuit of medicine wasn't motivated by a need to "stamp out his tendency for loving both poetry and loving men."

If his decision to pursue medicine was motivated by self-censorship, it didn't work, for Campo continued to write poetry and love men. Yet in his third year as a medical student at Harvard, he realized the poetry he continued to write had become distorted, that it was "all technique and no heart." It was an awareness that would change his life forever.

It's very odd for a third-year medical student to take a year off for anything but scientific research, but Campo isn't your ordinary guy. After many heated discussions, he convinced the powers-that-be at Harvard to let him study poetry at Boston University. There, he was able to work with writers like Derek Wolcott and Eve Sedgwick, poets who were passionate about writing and didn't just consider it a "a little game about mastering forms."

Studying poetry, however, did-

n't dampen Campo's enthusiasm for medicine. If anything, when the writer returned to Harvard in 1991, it was with renewed enthusiasm for science. It wasn't long after his return to Harvard that he made the decision to go into primary care rather than a field with little patient contact.

One year later, Campo and Arroyo moved to San Francisco for their dual residencies. They chose this city because both wanted to be around "a more vibrant gay and Latino community." But their adjustment wasn't always easy, Campo said. "We for so long had been as a community unto ourselves, and had enclosed ourselves in this cloak of the relationship, that at first we felt alienated."

In addition, while both men had been raised in big, bilingual, Latino families, here the Latino community was more politically empowered. "I wasn't used to thinking of myself as someone with any kind of empowerment, because back in Boston I was a double minority," Campo said. But ultimately, the move "awakened me again to who I was and what had drawn me to medicine in the first place."

Another crisis of identity hit once Campo was working with people with HIV and AIDS at San Francisco General Hospital during his four years as a medical resident. "Again, I found myself growing distant, especially from people with HIV," he said. Many of those he saw dying were like him: young, gay, Latino. "Suddenly, it was too much for me to process. I couldn't look at these people anymore as 'them.'"

Many of the poems written during this period appear in his second collection, *What the Body Told*. They are short, densely packed pieces that explode any assumptions of a physician's objective scientific eye. Now, when he treats his patients or teaches his students, he is likely to use poetry as much as chemical analysis to make his points. "Poems can't cure, but they are an important adjunct, equally important with other modalities," he said.

Now, in a beautiful irony, Harvard, the very school where Campo struggled so hard to find a place for his poetry and his gay identity, is his employer. The prestigious school has granted Campo's wish that 30 percent of his working time be allotted to his literary pursuits.

Campo is setting a new standard in the world of medicine,

one that demands not only technical accuracy and knowledge, but also compassion and humanity. In addition to being a physician, he is also an educator of future physicians, so we can only hope his philosophy will reach further into the future. In the meantime, we have his three current books, and, if we are lucky, more to come. ▼

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'Ordet'

◀ page 40

shorts, Dreyer secured financing for what many regard as his crowning work, *Ordet*. Based on a play by Lutheran minister (and Nazi victim) Kaj Munk, the film is a wrenching study of the spiritual desolation and intricate emotional relationships in a rural household. Morten Borgen is the old patriarch of a farm run by his two sons Michel and Anders. A third son, Johannes, has had a mental breakdown and believes he is Jesus Christ. Michel's wife, Inger, and their two daughters complete the household. In a scene reminiscent of what happened to Dreyer's own mother, Inger becomes desperately ill in child-

birth. The possessed Johannes predicts her death, and she dies. Prompted by her daughter, Johannes commands Inger to rise from the dead, and she does.

Dreyer uses light and shadow to brilliantly evoke the film's two worlds — the darkness represented by the Borgen's lack of faith, Johannes' insanity, and Inger's death; and the light represented by Inger's radiance, kindness, and sexuality, which transcend death. Her resurrection, defying narrative logic, is an extraordinary affirmation of love over human limitations. In one of the great moments in cinema, she rises and hungrily kisses her overwhelmed husband as if she were famished by death.

The filmmaker's career ended in 1964 with *Gertrud*, the story of an opera singer who discards a se-

ries of lovers over a period of years. Here, Dreyer's style has been pared to its dreamy essence — extraordinarily long takes, a few interiors, a handful of characters. *Ordet* showed the solace of nature in its restless surveys of the landscape around the Borgen farm; in *Gertrud*, the landscape is a series of emotionally charged interiors that reflects Gertrud's rich imaginative life, resonating through the power of her personality, with little regard for the outside world. Dreyer died in 1968. ▼

The San Francisco Cinematheque will screen *Ordet* Sunday, March 30 (7:30 p.m.) at the SF Art Institute, 800 Chestnut St. Tickets are \$6. For information, call 558-8129.

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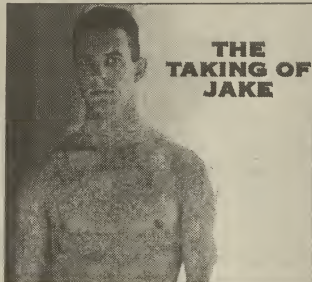
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ABBAmania

by Rene M. Astudillo

Even at the height of their popularity, ABBA was hardly considered cool, and in the years since their breakup in 1982, the Swedish singing group has pretty much been dismissed as just more evidence of how banal a decade the '70s really was. However, buoyed by '70s nostalgia and the popularity of movies like *Muriel's Wedding* and *Frischilla*, *Queen of the Desert*, flicks that featured ABBA's music, the band is enjoying something of a comeback.

Now, as a fitting climax to ABBAmania, comes an entire concert of ABBA music arranged and performed by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. Wittily titled *ExtrABBAganza*, the show will feature full and short versions of many of the group's favorite hits, including "Dancing Queen," "Gimme! Gimme!," "Fernando," and many others. The concert will also feature big production numbers (choreographed by Arturo Fernandez) and the chorus' small ensembles, the Lollipop Guild and Nota Bene.

ABBA's ride to international stardom came after the group won the 1974 Eurovision Song Contest with their first number one hit, "Waterloo." The quartet was formed when Anna-Fria Lynstad (Frida) and Agnetha Faltskog, the partners of singers and songwriters Benny Anderson and Bjorn Ulvaeus, began adding background vocals to the men's recordings. The magical har-

monies provided by Frida and Agnetha's voices gave the group its trademark sound, and the rest is musical history.

After releasing seven English albums, one Spanish album, and three greatest hits packages in less than ten years, ABBA ceased working together as a group in 1982, due in part to the failure of the couples' marriages.

"I can't imagine a more appropriate group for an ABBA tribute than the Gay Men's Chorus," says Stan Hill, artistic director of SFGMC. "Not only is ABBA a certified gay icon, but we — much like the members of ABBA — have also had to face the struggle to continue making music together after various members have fallen in love, settled down, broken up and descended into eternal bitterness." Hill adds, "Hearing 200 men singing these songs, it's hard to imagine that they weren't written for a men's chorus."

For those who are unable to see *ExtrABBAganza*, don't fret. The Gay Men's Chorus has plans to record a CD based on the concert some time this summer. ▼

ExtrABBAganza happens April 19 at 8 p.m. and April 20 at 2 p.m. at the Masonic Auditorium. Tickets are on sale at City Box Office, (415) 392-4400; all BASS ticket outlets (415) 776-1999; and at A Different Light Bookstore at 489 Castro Street. For more information, call the Gay Men's Chorus at (415) 863-4472.

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MUSIC

Speed and gloss

Salerno-Sonnenberg works up a sweat

by Timothy Pfaff

Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg would do well to hose down her instrument between movements. During the violinist's recital last Sunday at Davies Symphony Hall, the musician routinely stopped to shake and swab the sweat off her frequently sizzling instrument, which she handles much the same way a tennis star would her racket or a baseball player her bat. Like a host of other extramusical gestures that linger in memory more vividly than her playing, the act was apparently Salerno-Sonnenberg's way of signaling intensity, as in "I'm intense." It's hard to begrudge her a tactic that seemed to work. She had the Davies Hall audience on its feet, cheering madly — before intermission. By concert's end there was pandemonium. Unfortunately, it was during the music-making portions of the evening that things got a trifle thin. Having demonstrated right out of the gate — with the Allegro Vivace of Beethoven's Sonata No. 2 in A, Opus 12, No. 2 — that she could play faster than her audience could hear, Salerno-Sonnenberg never ventured far from a musical sleight-of-hand thereafter. Some tricks turned out to be more impressive than others, but for this listener none of them justified the fractured phrases, blurred pitches, hobbled rhythms, and squally sounds that sadly typify much of her playing.

Only the long-familiar patterns reminded me that her opener was that delightful Beethoven sonata. It didn't sound like Beethoven, and Salerno-Sonnenberg's habit of allowing important notes to fall out of the musical line lent even familiar tunes a disconcerting "buy-a-vowel" quality. Beethoven is full of "little notes," but many of them were lost in this show of sonic fireworks. The shrill, grating noise she imparted to this classical charmer further concealed its identity.

Allowing important notes to fall out of the musical line lent even familiar tunes a disconcerting 'buy-a-vowel' quality.

The rest of Salerno-Sonnenberg's program was off-the-beaten path repertoire: the violin sonatas of Francis Poulenc and Richard Strauss, and Manuel de Falla's "Suite populaire espagnole." But what might have been the pleasure of encountering unfamiliar music was compromised by the nagging sense that it was not being fairly represented.

Like the Beethoven, the Poulenc sonata was marred by raw execution. The urbanity of this sophisticated piece seemed smothered in urban blight. The performance confirmed that the liabilities that emerged during the Beethoven — most notably a telling lack of legato resulting from a nervous, fluttering bow arm — are characteristic of the musician's playing. The Poulenc also served notice of another oddity of Salerno-Sonnenberg's technique: the inaudibility of her



Violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg

pizzicati, despite a certain physical wildness in execution.

Ironically, in the middle of this slash-and-burn performance came a passage full of uncommonly clean and well-tuned double-stops, and with them a richness of musical expression unimagined up to that point. The realization of the piece's more sensuous aspects was enabled in no small way by the resourceful and supportive accompanist, Sandra Rivers.

The evening's most gratifying playing came during the Falla, a collection of character and local

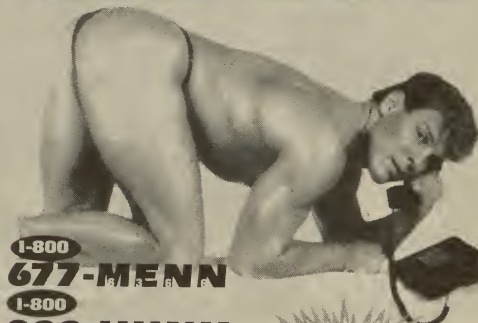
color pieces that seemed better-suited to the violinist's fiery temperament. There was something approaching genuine artistic communion with the tenderness of the penultimate number, "Asturiano," in which violinist and pianist enjoyed their most productive collaboration, playing off one another with a gratifying spontaneity.

Like any major Strauss composition, the Violin Sonata is, whatever else it is, monstrously difficult — and proud of it. Bravura is an essential part of its message. Salerno-Sonnenberg tore into the piece with characteristic ferocity, providing some of the evening's most musically rewarding results. The work's sophistication and suavity — its Viennese sauciness — were largely glossed over, but the speed and spectacle of her playing at last found an appropriate vehicle. ▼

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Star power

Hampson, Blomstedt light up Davies Hall

by Philip Campbell

Symphony regulars could easily call the last few weeks at Davies Hall a mix bag, but those of us who've been impressed with the superior repertoire would prefer to call it a spring potpourri.

We must forgive Michael Tilson Thomas and the orchestra if they were caught a bit offguard by tenor Jerry Hadley's last minute decision not to sing opposite Thomas Hampson in Mahler's song cycle *Das Lied von der Erde*. Hadley canceled for artistic reasons (read: couldn't hit the notes), which left management running around trying to find a suitable replacement. Their solution, Jon Frederic West, was not ideal.

Baritone *du jour* and hunky crowd pleaser Thomas Hampson probably could have sold out the hall on his name alone, and anyone who heard these performances of



Flutist Paula Robison

Das Lied can tell you why. He was simply outstanding, so good, in fact, that for the first time in memory, MTT was relegated to accompanist status. But MTT is too fine a musician and too generous a performer not to shine in his own right. His admirable control of the score almost succeeded in reigning in Mr. West's raw and bombastic presentation.

To be fair, Mr. West was not as awful as you may have heard. He did at least hit the notes, though most of us would have preferred that he shape them in the process. Then again, this is not an easy part to sing. The tenor role in *Das Lied* requires not only great vocal dexterity but the ability to put across a wide range of extroverted, if not downright vulgar, emotions. Contrasted with Hampson's gorgeous tone, impressive physique, and more refined material, West was hardly competition.

Das Lied von der Erde is traditionally performed by a tenor and a mezzo-soprano. There is plenty of precedent for Hampson's casting, though, and his performance was predictably appealing. The singer's quasi-Victorian evening attire, complete with velvet-colored tail coat and gold watch fob, added to the singer's star power. His voice may not be opera-house big, but it is concert-hall perfect, and he certainly deserved all the attention he received.

The evening began with Paula Robison giving an impassioned performance of Leonard Bernstein's beautiful *Hallel* for flute and orchestra. As a curtain-raiser it was more than adequate, but in light of Thomas Hampson's triumph and Jon Frederic West's debacle, it was quickly forgotten.

Many happy returns

Last week saw the return of former SFS Music Director Herbert Blomstedt, who got a warm reception from his former colleagues and the public. Only the harshest critics could find fault with Blomstedt. All things considered, the man's tenure in San Francisco improved the orchestra by leaps and bounds. Those who poke fun at his seeming conservatism or lack of charisma haven't noticed the keen intelligence and subtle wit flashing beneath those bushy brows. One thing is certain — the musicians here love him, and it was apparent throughout last week's concert.

Mozart's glorious Serenade No. 10 in B-Flat Major for Thirteen Instruments, or *Gran Partita*, is not an obvious choice for a big evening concert. Though it does contain some of Mozart's best melodies, chamber music is dangerous for the masses; if they aren't quickly drawn in they will almost certainly fall asleep. Considering Blomstedt's almost magical rapport with his former colleagues, however, the choice seemed less risky. Blomstedt wanted to show off his star players, and most of the musicians responded beautifully. When William Bennett's oboe took flight with that heavenly solo in the Serenade's adagio (you know, the tune that sends the fictionalized Salieri out of his mind in *Amadeus*), I simply relaxed and settled in for a happy visit with an old musical friend.

The second half of the bill was no less satisfying. Josef Haydn's Symphony No. 104, the *London*, was given a big and weighty, clearly articulated performance, one that might not have pleased authenticists, but which certainly worked for me. The capacity crowd responded with heartfelt approval. This week, Blomstedt completes his visit here with more Mozart — the Piano Concerto No. 21 with Andreas Haefliger — and the Brahms Symphony No. 2. ▼

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BOOKS

Long and winding read

by Nisa Donnelly

A Parisian from Kansas by
Philippe Tapon; Dutton, \$23.95

The extraordinary engaging story-within-a-story of the friendship between a disaffected world-weary AIDS patient searching for a book to redeem his life, and the sensitive, poetic young man who agrees to write it. An emotion-packed meditation on the limits of compassion and the ills of a generation by one of today's most acclaimed young writers."

Oddly enough, this isn't a publicity flak's treatment for Philippe Tapon's first novel, *A Parisian from Kansas*, it's in the book. Page 218, to be exact. The publicity statement itself reads a little differently, though very little. There, Tapon is described as "one of the most original writers in recent fiction" who is telling a "remarkable story-within-a-story of the friendship between two Americans in Paris. Exploring the limits of compassion and the ills of a generation, (the novel) describes what happens when a disaffected, world-weary HIV-positive man who believes his life is worthy of a novel meets a sensitive, poetic young man who agrees to write it."

Well, why not? *A Parisian from Kansas* is that kind of book. It rambles through the process of writing while weaving a none-too-unusual story about an expatriate gay man with AIDS, who abandons his Midwestern roots to pursue life and, ultimately, death in the City of Lights.

Darren, the "world-weary HIV-positive man who believes his life is worthy of a novel" engages the author, who becomes a main character in a collaboration. Never mind that the author/character has never written a novel before; Darren has never died before, either. And the author, in a daring stroke of creative technique, consciously decides to take

the reader inside his imagination and his process.

In a conversation with his mother, Tapon as writer and as character observes: "I'm at the point now where I have all sorts of fragments, completely disordered. But it's not a novel, and it's starting to worry me. I could just throw them all together, I suppose; it would make for a very modern novel."

And so he apparently did. Right through the editing process, finding an agent, even the reviews. It's all there. Tapon seems determined to have written his future as well as his book's.

In the midst of all this rambling, of all the fragments sewn lightly together, is Darren's story, told from the outside in and from the inside out. First, Tapon's take on the Darren he sees and, more importantly, imagines; then Darren's own wild and desperate ride through life and dying unfulfilled.

Is Tapon the "sensitive young man" he describes himself? Hard to say. The novel gives more insight to the inner-workings of the author's imagination and process than to the man, either as character or as author. And, in its desire to be the ultimate modern novel, the work moves at a heady pace, like a drunken taxi driver on the Champs Élysées on Saturday night.

Pre-release reviews are likening Tapon to "part Nabokov and part John Irving" (*Kirkus Reviews*), hardly surprising since in the book Tapon likens himself to John Irving. But a wrestling hobby and a few outrageous characters do not make it so. And Vladimir Nabokov's ghost is

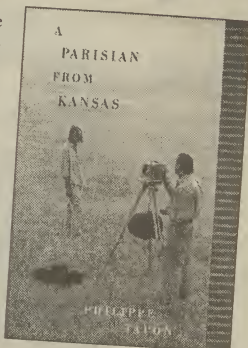
nowhere to be found.

If Tapon needs to be compared to another successful author, which is always a little dangerous in the writing business, a more likely match would be Tom Robbins. Tapon has adopted that same irreverent, self-conscious, in-your-face, fast-paced style, which

is alternately endearing and irritating. It's not a style that many writers undertake successfully, but Tapon has the wit and the talent to make it work.

The book shines when Tapon focuses on description. His streets of Paris and his sunsets of the Kansas farm country, the flighty gay men and the elegant fag hags, the small bistro and the hospital room are pure and true. The dialogue, however, falters more than occasionally, and the multi-chaptered monologue by Darren is more ordinary than inspired.

A Parisian from Kansas is a delightfully witty departure from most contemporary AIDS-related novels, and an interesting exploration of the life inside the writer's mind. It's a very good first novel with flashes of inspiration held together by pure verve and imagination. ▼



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DANCE

Movers and shakers



The Mark Foehringer Dance Project will perform an evening of contemporary dances April 4 and 5 at the Brady Street Dance Center, at 60 Brady Street. A staple of the SF dance scene since the early '90s, the 11-member Foehringer Dance Project will present a striking new work on their Friday-Saturday program, *Passion*, set to music by Peter Gabriel. The program also includes *Here to There*, set to music by Michael Nyman; *In Memoriam*, to Heitor Villa Lobos; and the highly entertaining *Jammies* (pictured), a dance spectacle for six dancers performed to the music of Bette Midler and Doris Day. Performances are at 8:30 both nights. Tickets are \$7 at the door. For more information, call 665-8485. ▼

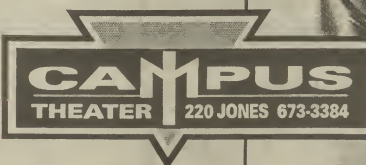
STEVE O'DONNELL

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BOY WONDER
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Mar. 21th - 27th

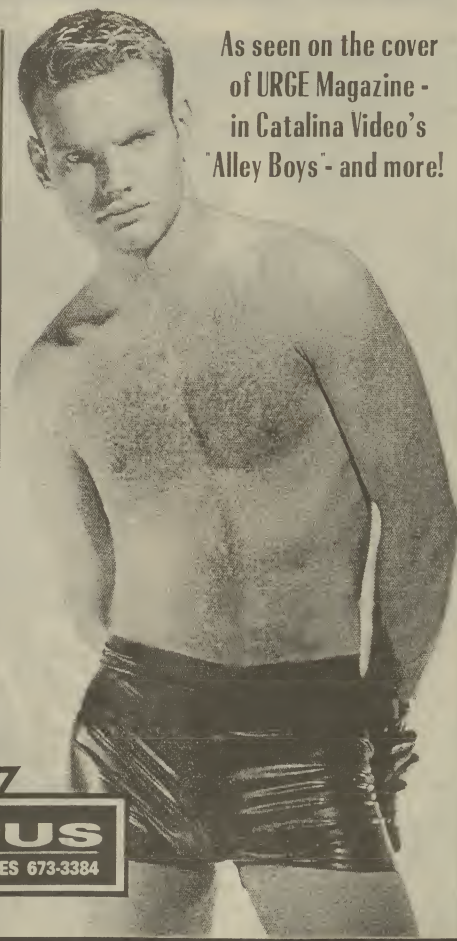
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She says funny things funny

by Deborah Peifer

Suzanne Westenhofer, *Nothing In My Closet But My Clothes*, Updora

The trick to reviewing a comic is to reveal enough so the reader knows how funny the performer is without giving away all the best bits. In the case of Suzanne Westenhofer's new CD, *Nothing In My Closet But My Clothes*, the difficulty is greater because there are no unfunny bits in this performance, recorded live at the Alladin Theatre in Portland.

Famous as an out lesbian comedian, Westenhofer's comedy is more than just gay, although her take on lesbian life is an important part of her comedic persona. "Are there any Amish gay people?" the native Pennsylvanian wonders. "Imagine this big old Amish dyke ... in her bonnet ... sneaking into barn raisings and begging, 'Can I just touch the tools?'" The comic reports that during an interview she was asked why she



Suzanne Westenhofer

stopped doing material around sado-masochism. "Did you get into trouble with the S/M community?" the interviewer asked. Westenhofer ponders, then asks, "Trouble with the S/M community? Now what would that be? Does it mean they'd be nice to you, maybe give you a big hug?"

I suspect that the real pleasure of Westenhofer's comedy is that anything is possible, and all those possibilities are ripe for her slightly skewed but always recognizable observations. Her delight in her mother's acceptance of her lesbian daughter is palpable, but that doesn't mean that Westenhofer can't observe upon her sister's coming out that her mother felt "she should get a special jacket from P-FLAG, maybe with two stars on it."

Sombody once said that the difference between a comic and a comedian is that a comic says funny things and a comedian says things funny. Suzanne Westenhofer says funny things funny, and with a warmth and affection that makes her work doubly delightful, and just as funny on the second listening as the first. No more favorite bits from me, although I will just mention that the Martina story alone is worth the price of the CD; it's time for you to do yourself a favor and buy *Nothing In My Closet But My Clothes*. ▼

Widow's epic

by Deborah Peifer

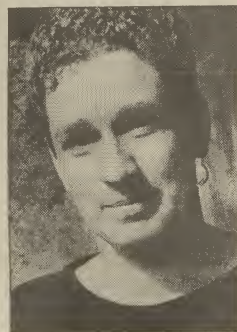
The Grass Widow by Nancy Little; Madwoman, \$12.95

Some years ago, after listening to my mother kvetch about the fact that no one made good movies anymore, that they were all filled with blood and naked people (equally horrifying

to mom), I took her to a revival of *The Sound of Music*. Now, this was a full dress presentation, including an intermission, which occurs, you may recall, just as Maria is leaving the Von Trapp house to return to the convent. As the curtain closed, a small boy in the audience cried out, "Oh, please don't let it be over!" Now that, gentle readers, is exactly how I felt when I got to the end of Nancy Little's extraordinary historical novel, *The Grass Widow*. As I approached the final pages, I read more and more slowly in order to make it last.

Aidan Blackstone is a grass widow, that is, a woman who is both unmarried and pregnant, and in 1876, that meant real trouble. The pregnancy was the result of a brutal rape, but that doesn't mean that her father doesn't insist that she marry the rapist. When Aidan refuses, her father exiles her to the wilds of Kansas to live with her distant relations until she can have the baby and find herself a husband. When Aidan arrives, she learns that all of her relatives have died in a recent influenza epidemic, all, that is, except Jocelyn (Joss), who wears men's clothing and does men's work in an effort to keep the family farm. Aidan's big city ways are of little use in Kansas, but her willingness to learn makes her at least a possible ally.

Little does a wonderful job creating a realistic picture of life on the Great Plains in the 1870s. Her attention to detail is meticulous, but the information is provided in a readable and entertaining way. When Joss and Aidan fall in love, the result is touching and credible and very sexy, a marvelous combination. I particularly enjoyed Little's creation of secondary characters that remain vividly in the mind long after I finished the novel. The heart of the piece, however, is Little's main characters, and their discovery of each other. This is no pablum-esque concoction of sweetness and light. Joss and Aidan are real women, facing the real problems of life in the semi-wild West, and their triumphs are a pleasure to read. *The Grass Widow* is a powerful, entertaining, educational novel. It reminds us that we have always been everywhere, and that our foremothers' stories deserve to be remembered. ▼



Author Lucy Jane Bledsoe

Touching tale

by Deborah Peifer

Working Parts by Lucy Jane Bledsoe; Seal, \$12

Owing to the deadly combination of being both Virgo and Catholic, I taught myself to read when I was four years old. This feat was not the result of any great skill or intelligence on my part, but was rather a terrified response to my mother's statement: "Next year when you go to school, you'll read." This meant, as far as I could tell, that not knowing how to read when kindergarten started meant being in big trouble, both with Mom and nuns. I've been reading ever since, and the trauma at the start notwithstanding, I count books among my chiefest joys. My response to adult illiteracy is stunned amazement and horrified disbelief. I cannot imagine being unable to read. My life would be quite meaningless without that greatest gift.

Lucy Jane Bledsoe's first novel, *Working Parts*, is a believable tale of Lori and her struggles toward literacy. Lori is a bicycle mechanic who works with her friend, Mickey, at Enrique's shop. They both dream of starting a repair business of their own, but Lori knows that Mickey will lose interest

next page ►

ART



Gossip's Bridle, I, by Caroline Clerc, 1995

Touching tale

◀ previous page

est in her as a partner when he finds out that she can't read. His faith in her, and the bet that they make with each other around their individual difficulties, provide the plot with its catalyst, but the heart of this novel is Lori's efforts first to hide her illiteracy and then to conquer it.

Bledsoe does a fine job of creating real characters, and it is particularly interesting to see how various people in Lori's life react

to her confession. For the first time I understood how someone might go through school faking out her teachers, then through life faking out everybody else, all because that magic "I can read!" moment never happened.

Most impressive is Bledsoe's ability to make her first-person narrator credible. We learn that Lori can sound smart, and that is in fact how she's managed to conceal her secret. We also see that a sense of humor can deflect discovery. *Working Parts* is a compelling, amusing and touching work of fiction. ▼

Stirred

◀ page 41

every viewer will gravitate towards peculiar favorites. I was particularly taken by John Muse's delicate homage to Kafka's parable "The Great Wall and the Tower of Babel," for which he has constructed a fragile nest of paper blocks inscribed with the tale's words. I also returned several times to Arnold Kemp's fragmented renderings of a man banging his head against a wall, and to the bloody-finger photograph "Pricked," from Chris Komater's *Nocturne* series. Davina Grunstein's *Some-where Else* cracks the exhibition's secret code wide open. From the intimate, voyeuristic perspective of a tiny window set into the gallery wall, the viewer spies a miniature diorama of trees. This vista suddenly disappears with the flicker of a light bulb, and is replaced by a second scene of a parlor with floral wallpaper and a mirror that reflects your gaze straight back at you. Caught in the act of looking, you wait, frozen, until the light bulb dims and the trees reappear. Grunstein's technical trickery beguiles



Pricked, by Chris Komater, 1996, from the photo series, "Nocturne."

with the offhand yet explosive charm that fuels this exhibition's potent contents. Sean Connery might be able to figure it all out, but Roger Moore wouldn't stand a chance. ▼

Stirred Not Shaken is on view at Refusalon, 20 Hawthorne Street, through April 12. Call (415) 546-0158 for information.

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Roberto Friedman

1997 BAY AREA ANARCHIST BOOK FAIR

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Booked

Anarcho-lit

Anarchy in the park! The Second Annual Bay Area Anarchist Book Fair is set for Saturday, March 29, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the San Francisco County Fair Building in Golden Gate Park (Ninth Avenue & Lincoln Way). Sponsored by the anarchist collective bookstore Bound Together Books, the Anarchist Book Fair is a guaranteed happenin' SF scene. Last year's Fair was a hive of rad activity and schmoozing, and there were real treasures to be found among its stalls of new and used anti-authoritarian books, pamphlets, and paraphernalia.

Smash the state, Dianne!

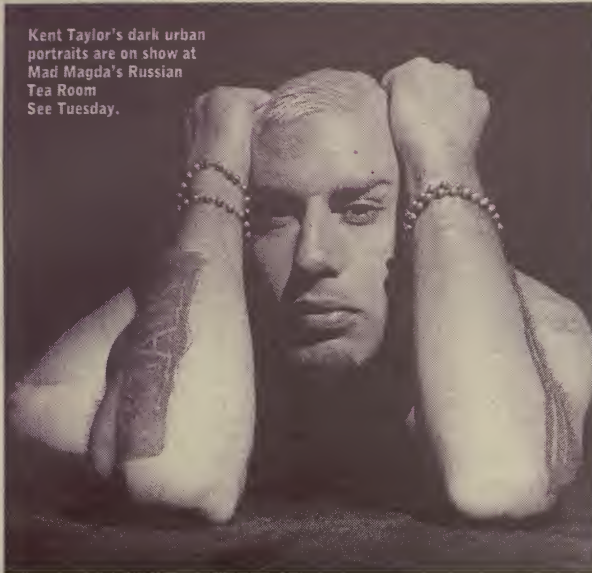
This year, the speaker line-up is "très gay," according to Bound Together collective member Joey Cain. Speakers include medical marijuana activist Dennis Peron, gay movement founder and theorist Harry Hay, spoken word artist Carol Queen, poet Sparrow 13 Laughingwand; also, former Dead Kennedy frontman Jello Biafra, American Indian activist Carol Standing Elk, and cult novelists J.G. Eccarius and Jane Doe.

Organizers promise a café, an artists' exhibit, and over fifty anarchist book and magazine publishers offering printed matter as well as T-shirts, records and posters. Groovy. Sounds like a new era of anar-chic has begun.

Meanwhile, in other book news, a little note from the Friends of the Library reminds me that the New Main isn't the only library in town, certainly not, and a party at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 29 will celebrate the re-opening of the Harvey Milk Branch Library, after months of renovations. The Milk Branch is at 3555 16th St., near Market. ▼

Admission to the Second Annual Bay Area Anarchist Book Fair is free, of course. No one turned away for lack of élan. Info: 431-8355.

Kent Taylor's dark urban portraits are on show at Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room. See Tuesday.



Kent Taylor

Fri

Amazon Queen

Original funk/folk rock. Stumptown River Theater, 15045 River, Guerneville. (707) 579-7920.

American Artifacts

Go Play presents staging of three teleplays from the early days of television. Thurs.-Sat. at 8:30pm, Sun. at 3:30pm thru 4/6. \$10. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. 621-7978.

Dirty Little Showtunes

Musical revue by Seattle lyricist Tom Orr, extended thru 4/20. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm. \$15. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-TIXS.

The Edge Festival

Tim Miller in Carnal Garage. Thurs.-Sat. thru 3/29 at 8pm. \$12 advance/\$14 door. ODC Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 824-5044.

Mysterium 1997

A Mystic Art Festival: tonight, an evening with Robbie D and Esmarelda. \$5. 8pm. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-1441.

Old, Jewish and Queer

Naomi Newman in musical theatre piece that pushes boundaries of time and gender. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 3/30. \$16. A Traveling Jewish Theatre, 2800 Mariposa. 399-1809.

Positive Lives

Exhibit of documentary photo-

graphy exploring impact of HIV in the US, UK and South Africa. Thru 3/30. Levi Strauss Headquarters, 855 Battery. 487-3076.

Queer Passion Perspectives

Lesbian and gay meditations on the seven last words of Christ, music from J.C. Superstar. 7pm. MCC/SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

Rocky Horror Superstar

Klubstutute Kollektive presents Ruby Toosday's spectacle, the Jesus of Frankenfurter story. Fri.-Sat. at 8pm thru 4/19. \$15. Victoria Theater, 2961 16th St. 339-8113.

Sidewalk Sale

Under One Roof & the Names Project hold bake sale,

marked-down Gift Show & Food Fair merchandise. Fri.-Sun. from 11am. 2362 Market.

Singing Out Loud

"A Musical Outing of Broadway Show Tunes," 7 male vocalists and a piano. Wed.-Sun. at 8pm thru 3/30. \$14-16. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Spiritual Discussion Group

Topic: "Am I my brother's keeper?" Interfaith, all welcome, free. 6:30pm. 776 Haight. 621-3317.

Suburbia 3000

An original rock musical by D'Arcy Drollinger, final installment of the Brite Sleep trilogy. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 4/26. \$14. SOMAR Theater, 934 Brannan. 995-4667.

Uncle Bob

Austin Pendleton's play: uncle and nephew in verbal and psychological warfare. Thurs.-Sat. at 8:30pm thru 3/29. \$8-12. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 826-5750.

Virgins and Other Myths

Andrew Nance in Colin Martin's play: an All-American turned sex addict. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, extended thru 4/12. \$16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Sat

Diva to Diva

Open mike showcase for female impersonators hosted by Chablis, Sexilya Luvseat. \$2, free in drag. Doors 9pm, show 10pm. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

Dykes Do Attitude

Dance theater by Anne Bluethenthal, Jenna Cameron, Debby Kajiyama, Sue Roginski, Mercy Sidbury. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 4/5. \$12-20. Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Easter Basket Sale for AIDS

6th annual; benefits Visual AID, PAWS. Basket viewing, silent auction, 10am. Sale, 11am. Bldg 4, Fort Mason. 441-1282.

Fresh With a Vengeance

The Paul Drescher Ensemble in concert, Electro-Acoustic Band with violin soloist David Abel. \$14. 8pm. Forum, Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Gay Comedy Night

Dan Rothenberg, Dolores Trevino. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Healers on Healing

Free educational program presented by AIDS Treatment Education Network. 1pm. Gazebo Rm., Davies Med. Ctr., Castro & Duboce. 284-6237.

Library Re-Opening

Friends of the Library celebrates re-opening of Harvey Milk Branch. 2pm. 3555 16th St. 557-4257.

Natives Are Restless

"Ku Kanaka," Hawaiian hula dance performance by Na Lei Hulu I Ka Wekiu. Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm. \$15 advance, \$18 door. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. 248-1984.

Remarkably Sanguine

All-woman quartet Lindsay and the Total Babes celebrate release of debut CD. 9:30pm. CoCo Club, 139 8th St. 863-2248.

Shine Tour

Pianist David Helfgott performs Rachmaninov. \$20-65. 8pm. Masonic Theatre, 1111 California. (510) 762-BASS.

SisPics

New experimental film and video by and about women. \$5. 8:30pm. ATA Gallery, 992 Valencia. 824-3890.

20/20 Blake

George Coates Performance Works presents musical based on William Blake's *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell*. \$14-34. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm extended thru 3/30. Performance Works, 110 McAllister. 392-4400.

Visions of Chiapas

Photography, video, painting and writing in honor of the people of Chiapas, Mexico. Thurs.-Sat. thru 4/12. Colli-sion, 417 14th St. 552-3661.

Sun

Easter Services

Guest speaker Vaughn Beckman, Celebration Singers. 10:30am. Celebration of Faith Church, Billy DeFrank Ctr., 175 Stockton, San Jose. (408) 345-2319.

GAWK

Gay Artists and Writers Collective seeks video editors, guitar players, music junkies and comedians. Meets Sun. at 3pm. Info: 731-2424.

Refried Resurrection

Easter afternoon BBQ, performance, part of Mysterium festival. \$5. 12-5pm. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 864-1441.

Sunday Bruch Potluck

Men of All Colors Together's potluck, "Pizzas of All Kinds Together." Bring enough for 5. 1-3pm. 2nd fl., Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison. 675-0201.

When Girls Collide

Lynne Messinger's band plays the Hotel Utah. 7:30pm. 4th St. at Bryant.

Mon

Gay Comedy Open Mike

MC Carla Carmony, funny performers sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

A Piece of Bavaria

Authentic German dinner served, 5-8pm. \$4.75-5.75. The Gangway Bar, 841 Larkin. 885-4441.

Tues

Closet Strategies

Installation by Sarah Lewison, with Gale Jesi's "Girls Girls Girls" and other installations. Thru 4/19. Southern Exposure, 410 Alabama. 863-2141.

Delicatessen

Screening of Jean-Pierre Jeunet's film. \$5. 7pm. Alliance Française de SF, 1345 Bush. 775-7755.

From Oaxaca

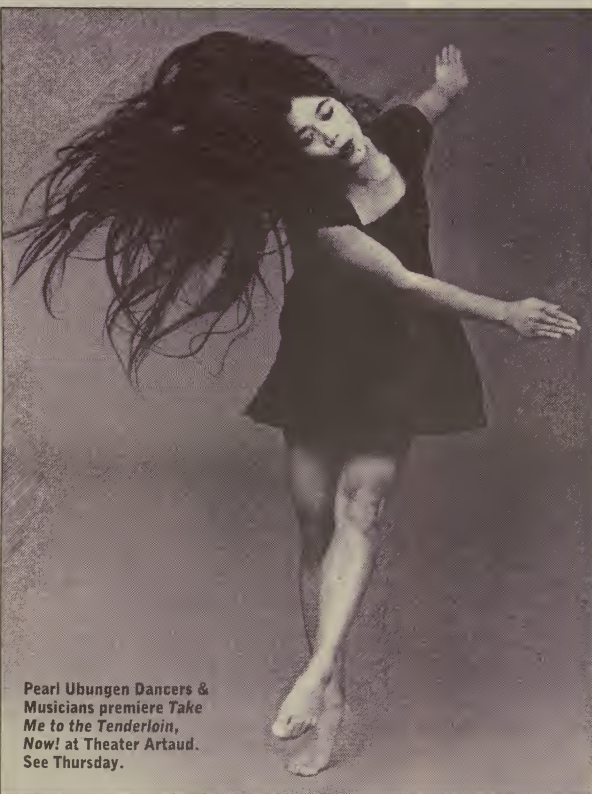
Group show of Oaxacan painters, thru 4/16. Bucheon Gallery, 355 Hayes. 863-2891.

Ghost 1997

New work by Scooter. By appointment thru 4/4. Scene/es-cena, 44 San Carlos. 621-4104.

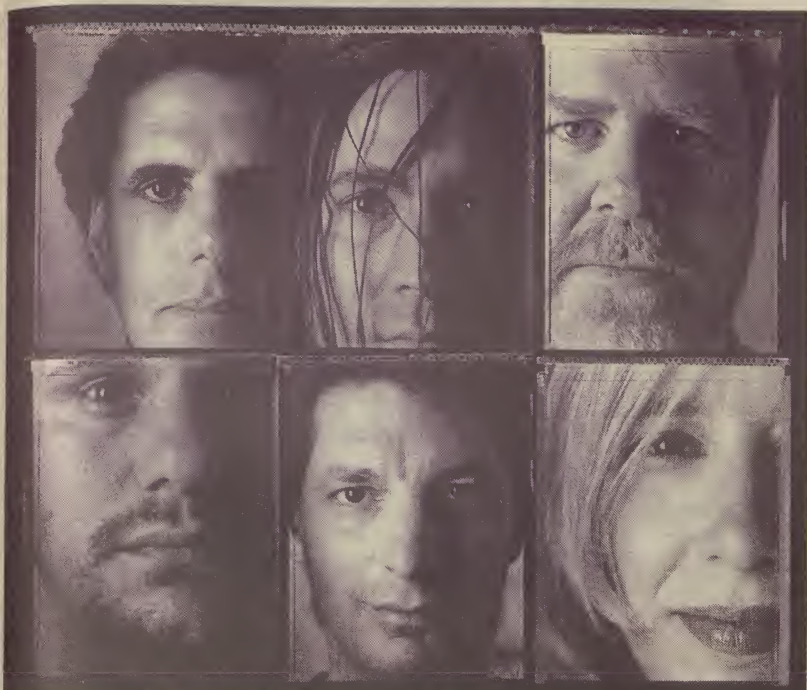
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Kent Miller

Pearl Ubungen Dancers & Musicians premiere *Take Me to the Tenderloin*. Now! at Theater Artaud. See Thursday.

Paul Dresher Ensemble Electro-Acoustic Band in concert, *Fresh With a Vengeance* at Center for the Arts. See Saturday.

puter-controlled Chicano art by Chico MacMurtrie. Tues.-Sat. thru 4/26. Galería de la Raza, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

Kent Taylor
Exhibit of dark urban portraits opens. Thru April. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes.

The Living Brush
Exhibition of "Four Contemporary Chinese Master Calligraphers." Tues.-Sat. thru 8/14. Pacific Heritage Museum, 608 Commercial. 399-1124.

Michael J. McArdle
Paintings in acrylic and mixed media. Thru 4/30. Laguna Sidewalk Cafe, 297 Page. 863-7373.

Sappho: No Ordinary Housewife
Exhibit of life and times of Greek poet Sappho. Thru 4/30. Hormel Center, SF Main Library, Civic Center. 510-222-4552.

Saved
Portraits of objects by photographer J. John Priola; with Nan Goldin's "Recent Photographs," thru 4/26. Fraenkel Gallery, 49 Geary. 961-2661.

Seth Montfort
Pianist performs recital of Great Horses in Piano Music.

\$10. 8pm. Music Ctr., 207 Powell. 362-6080.

Slice
Polk St.'s only all-girl event. DomiMixtress Ginger slings cocktails, conversation. Tues., 7pm-2am. Upstairs, Kimo's, 1351 Polk.

The Sophie Tucker Songbook
Sharon McNight's one-woman show on the life and music of legendary star. Tues.-Sat. at 8pm, Sat.-Sun. at 3pm thru 4/6. Call for ticket price. Plush Room, Hotel York. 885-2800.

Stirred Not Shaken
Group show features 22 Californian visual artists. Tues.-Sat. thru 4/12. Refusalon, 20 Hawthorne. 546-0158.

Wed 2

Raw Men
Erotic male nudes by Oakland artist Tom Atkins, reception tonight, 6pm. Thru 4/16. Crucible Steel Gallery, 2050 Bryant. 641-1531.

The Royal Family
ACT's production of George S. Kaufman & Edna Ferber's classic play. Tues.-Sun. thru

4/20, call for times. \$19-47.50. Tonight at 8pm. Geary Theatre, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

Same Sex Salsa
Dance classes with Ava Apple. Beginners, 7pm; intermediate, 8pm. \$8, 4 classes/\$29. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 681-8140.

Songwriting for Queers
Harvey Milk Institute class with performance goal, taught by Paul Van De Carr. Wed. thru 4/30, 7pm. \$50. Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission. 552-7200.

Survival System Train
Sculpture by Kenji Yanobe on exhibit; also, Pepón Osorio's *Badge of Honor* and *Organically Grown* works. Tues.-Sun. thru 6/1. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Topographical Eden
Play set in Ground Zero Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, 1976. Wed.-Sun. thru 4/13. \$17-21. Tonight at 8:30pm. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

Tower of Wonders
Installation by Peter Haberkorn, Barbara Levine, Paige Ramey, thru 5/25. Picture, 524 3rd St. 543-4124.

Alistair McCartney and Tim Miller in *Carnal Garage* at ODC Performance Gallery, part of The Edge Festival. See Friday.

Thur

Bingo
Coming Home Hospice Bingo benefits AIDS groups. 6:30pm. 100 Diamond. 552-2127.

From the Barbary Coast
"To the SF Task Force on Prostitution," slide show sponsored by US PROStitutes Collective. \$10 donation. 7:30pm. St. Paulus, 930 Gough. 626-4114.

The Lonely Planet
Absurdist comedy about friendship and fear in age of AIDS. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 5/17. \$16-20. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Praise and Punishment Show
Fratelli Bologna in evening of competitive improv. Thurs. at 8pm thru 5/29. \$10. Bayfront Theatre, Bldg. B, Fort Mason. 285-4328.

Sacra Lingua
New paintings by Jeffrey Ramos, reception today, 5pm. Thru 5/3. Mr. Ralph's, 90 Natoma. 538-0928.

Take Me to the Tenderloin, Now!
Collaboration between street photographer Ken Miller and choreographer Pearl Ubungen, about home and neighborhood. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 2pm thru 4/13. \$12.50-\$18.50. Theater Artaud, 450 Florida. 621-7797.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Roberto Friedman
Out & About
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

This Week's Dinner Specials



Chicken Cordon Bleu stuffed with Italian sausage, spinach & fontina cheese, with chef's rice or mashed potatoes.....8.75

Grilled 12-oz NY Pepper Steak with cracked black pepper & brandy-cream, onion rings and french fries.....11.95

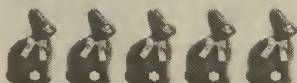
Fresh Atlantic Salmon poached in white wine with lemon-tarragon served with chef's rice or mashed potatoes..10.95

PRIME RIB au jus with baked potato and creamy horseradish....11.95

Fried Calamari (Appetizer).....4.95

Patio Cafe

531 Castro Street, between 18th/19th
Breakfast/Lunch served from 8:00 AM
Dinner from 5:00 PM nightly



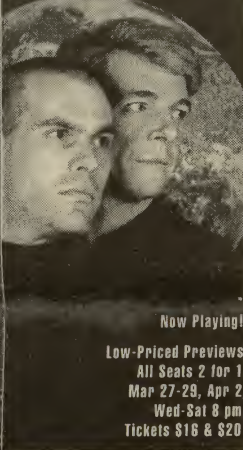
BAY AREA REPORTER

New Conservatory Theatre Center

Virgins & Other Myths
by Colin Martin

San Francisco premiere
"Hill Overl"

Lonely Planet
by Steven Dietz
directed by Arturo Catricala



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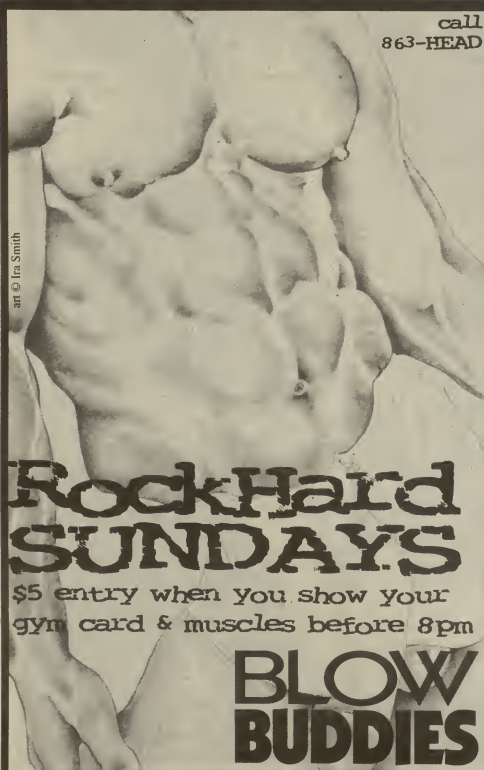
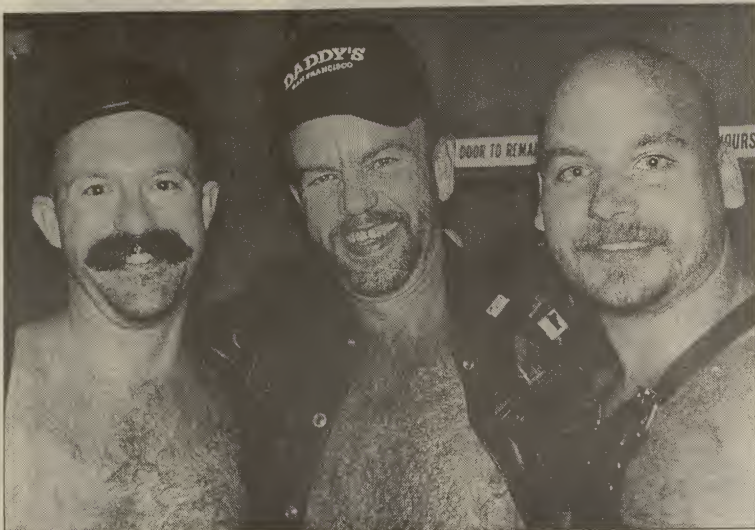
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BLOW BUDDIES

Daddy's owner Philip Turner (center) with 1997 Mr. Daddy's Leather Tom Powers and 1st runner-up John Brown.

The race is on!

by Mister Marcus

The race for Mr. San Francisco Leather 1997 kicked into high gear last week with two more aspirants named to compete for our most exalted local leather title. Winners were sashed at Daddy's on Wednesday and The Wooden Horse on Friday.

A huge crowd materialized at Daddy's for that bar's second annual Mr. Daddy Leather Contest. I had a ball sharing judging duties with Gary Virginia, Art Tomaszewski, Audrey Joseph, Queen Cougar and Daddy Irwin Kane. Lenny Broberg, the consummate master of ceremonies, wielded the mike throughout with lots of bravado, inside jokes and gentle jibing of the holy cows in attendance.

The local leather sash wearers were out in full force as John Brown, Jesús Martínez, Mike Marrero and Tom Powers went through the pre-judging, leather image, revealing attire and 90-second speech segments. The event started on time and was over before midnight, with lots of enthusiasm from the crowd. When the ballots were counted, the first runner-up was John Brown, and

Mr. Daddy's Leather '97 is Tom Powers. Tom is Mr. April on the current BCC and has recently been holding fundraisers for various charities.

Two nights later, as big a crowd as could be squeezed into the tiny Wooden Horse bar on Polk St. witnessed the first-ever Mr. Polk Street Leather Contest. Former Mr. Northern California Drummer Omar Moseley hosted the event, with Brian Benamati, Victoria Rose of Alameda and Mr. San Jose Drummer Joseph Osborne hurling the questions and reviewing the appearances and speeches of contestants Todd Kepus, Jesús Martínez and Michael Parsons. Wooden Horse patrons were enthusiastic and generous with their applause for each contestant.

When the ballots were counted, Jesús Martínez emerged as the victor with Mike Parsons the runner-up. Mr. Martínez has the honor of being the first-ever Mr. Polk Street Leather. He will compete for the Mr. SF Leather title in April. Unfortunately, my photo lab again failed to come through with the photos from this contest,

but I promise you'll see them next week!

The last leather bar title event takes place tonight, Thursday, March 27, at the SF-Eagle. Judges Jon Ayres, Joey Faria, Tommie Thomas and Richard Lester will work with head judge Graylin Thornton to decide who will be Mr. SF-Eagle Leather '97. The action begins at 2100. At my deadline, last year's winner, Joe Piazza, has not surfaced anywhere.

In view of this, Mr. San Francisco Leather Gary Virginia has been invited to sash the Eagle's winner. At my deadline, there were several people "thinking" about entering this one.

After tonight, there are five contestants for sure who will compete for Mr. San Francisco Leather. Bike clubs and other businesses have been invited to sponsor a contestant, but so far no one has taken up that offer. The deadline for the Mr. SF Leather competition is Friday, April 11. The only requirements are that you must be a San Francisco resident for at least one year and you must be at least 21 years of age. The entry fee is \$25. Call 923-9811 if you want to compete.

Tickets to Mr. SF Leather - available at both Mister S locations and at Auto Erotica (upstairs) at 4077A 18th St. - are going like hot cakes. Don't be left out! \$25 in advance/\$30 at the door - if any are left!

Over things were happening here in Mecca and around the world last weekend. There was the Black Party and the Mr. L.U.R.E. Leather Contest in New York on Saturday. In Albuquerque, the Mr. and Ms. New Mexico Leather competition took place at The Ranch on Saturday night followed by Cindy Bookout's big wedding on Sunday. In Seattle, Leather Pride Week kicked off on Friday and continues all this week with The Cuff bar celebrating another anniversary - plus the Mr. Washington State Leather contest is this Saturday, March 29, at Neighbors. And don't forget the Emerald Awards!

Next weekend, the Mr. Leather Los Angeles 1997 extravaganza will take place at the Faultline Bar with a Friday, April 4, meet and greet. The contest is on Saturday, April 5. This event will end the



Mr. June 1998 David Edwards (l) with first runner-up Ken Lyght.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, March 27

A leather title vest, \$300 cash and other prizes will go to the winner of the Mr. SF Eagle Leather Contest tonight, beginning at 2100. The judging panel is in place, and this is the final bar contest in San Francisco this year. Come on down and check it out!

Dating Game at Daddy's, with Danny Williams cracking up the audience while someone wins a date with a daddy or a boy.

Friday, March 28

Knights of Malta beer bust (\$6), "Bunny's Night Out" – something about picking eggs and winning prizes, 2000-2300, at the SF-Eagle.

Grand re-opening of the Triple R in Guerneville after extensive repairs from the flood. Former Dyke Daddy Jo Leroux is pushing the cocktails and ashtrays behind the bar.

Weekend, March 28-30

Leather Pride week in Seattle continues with the meet & greet at The Cuff on Friday for the Mr. Washington State Leather competition on Saturday plus the Emerald Awards on Sunday.

The Divine Rainbeau headlines a dance performance with Janet and Jessi, Grace and Jolanne at Luna Sea Friday and Saturday at 2000. Tix are \$10. Reserve by calling 863-2989.

Saturday, March 29

Roast, bake, baste, poach and fry The Widow (I presume they mean the Widow Norton, José Sarria) at the International Building (50 Oak St.) at 1900 with ducats \$20 a head. Pay at the door or flee to A Different Light Bookstore for tix.

Sunday, March 30

Forum of SF hosts the beer bust at the Eagle today, 1500-1800, for \$8. Always great food – it'll

be a ham supper, and Easter bonnets will be on parade. Also, in Guerneville the Triple R's Easter egg hunt and bonnet parade. No details furnished at my deadline.

Wednesday, April 2

Voting for Golden Dildeux Awards nominees begins today at the SF-Eagle with a \$1 fee for each ballot. Vote early and often through April 9. The awards will be presented on April 11.

Lou Duff's rope seminar – subject tonight: "Topping for Those Who Don't" – 1900-2200, at Castlebar. Call 550-0122 for details.

Thursday, April 3

Mr. July 1998 on the BCC will be chosen at the SF-Eagle at 2200. Judges are Skeeter Wildman, Dewey Green and Mr. Silver Fox Lee Julien. This one should be a real trip! Also free HIV testing upstairs at 933 Harrison, 2030-2230. Use this service by Blow Buddies and the Stop AIDS Project!

Friday, April 4

Mr. SF Leather Gary Virginia's stepping-down party (\$20), "Light Up the Night," at the SF-Eagle, with lots of entertainment. Benefits AEF and AIDS Benefits Counselors.

Saturday, April 5

Mr. Los Angeles Leather contest at the Faultline Bar in Los Angeles. Mike Shewan passes the sash to a successor. Thanks for a great year, Mike!

Grand re-opening of Le Salon on Polk Street by new owners Bear Dog Hoffman and Jack Boujalkian, a virtual video emporium with over 10,000 videos. Check out that Harley taking off through shredded sheet metal!

Knights of Malta fifth anniversary reception at the SF Eagle, 1900-2200, by invite in hand or club overlay. Congratulations and best wishes for future success!

title year of Michael Shewan, who was one of the 20 finalists at IML last year. On April 12, Mr. Leather San Diego will be chosen, and April 19 is the Mr. San Francisco Leather competition. Mr. Piston Leather '97 will be chosen at that bar in Long Beach on April 26.

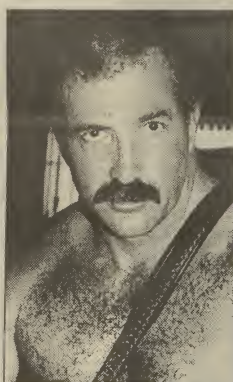
Here on the home front, it was pretty hectic last week. On Thursday, the 1998 BCC competition reached the halfway mark with the selection of Mr. June 1998. Four deserving dudes trod the boards at the SF-Eagle and faced judges Lou Duff, Greg Pennington and Taurus Webster. They had interesting questions for contestants David Edwards, John Edwards, Rick Grave and Ken Lyght. The Bare Chest Chorus was in good form, and the big crowd applauded the parade of pulchritude with gusto. When the scores were added up, David Edwards was declared the winner and will grace the June 1998 page on next year's calendar. Heading into the second half of the contests, Mr. July 1998 will be chosen on Thursday, April 3, at 2200. See you there?

On Saturday night, March 22, the 23rd Annual Cable Car Awards ceremony took center

stage at the Gift Center Pavilion. Leather, drag, denim and tuxedos mingled amiably, and the voting was heavy. It was long overdue, but Mike Grenier of Greater Liquors was my favorite winner of the evening. The board of directors rightfully gave the Dorothy Langston Award to Mike for his two decades plus of support and generosity to San Francisco's gay/lesbian community. He was escorted by his charming daughter and his very handsome brother, and received thunderous applause from the assembled throng.

I worked a lot with Mike back in the early '70s when his company launched the Acme Beer label with a Mr. Acme Beer Man contest. The winner got a \$3000 modeling contract for Acme's advertising. Mike Grenier deserved this award. He's always been there for us.

On Sunday afternoon, March 23, the Phoenix Uniform Club hosted the Sunday beer bust at the Eagle with their "Uniforms of the World" contest. Due to their successful previous appearances at the Eagle, the PUC enjoyed a great crowd, and nature cooperated with some lovely weather. Many



Mr. Leather Los Angeles '96 Michael Shewan will sash his successor at the Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest '97 April 5.

interesting uniforms were in evidence, but the one that grabbed the prize was worn by hunky David Hanson, who was attired in a U.S. Civil War cavalry uniform. For his efforts, he won a pair of 17" Chippewa engineer boots, courtesy of Stompers! The other contestants received Daddy's Bar packs, which contain a T-shirt, drink tickets, a Daddy's baseball cap and a Daddy's poster.

Dildeaux update

Nominations for the 20 categories of the 1997 Golden Dildeux Awards are open, and the names pouring in for the "honors" are a little eyebrow-raising to say the least! You can nominate some of your favorite perverts for free at the Eagle up to March 27. If your name gets at least seven nominations, you will appear on the final ballot. Voting at \$1 per ballot begins at the Eagle April 2 and continues through April 9. The awards will be presented on Friday, April 11. Skeeter Wildman and George Carreras will be the emcees, and there will be entertainment as well as a star-studded list of presenters during the \$6 beer bust. ▼

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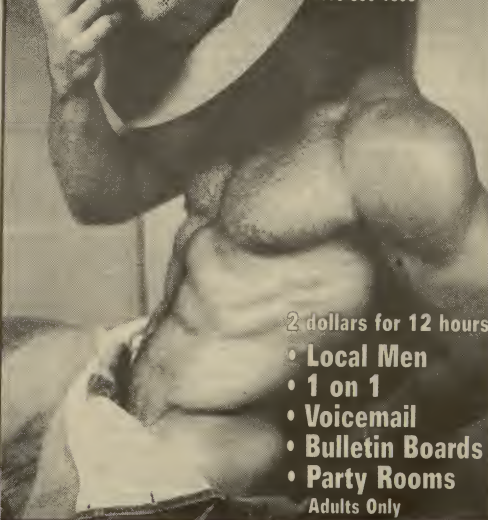
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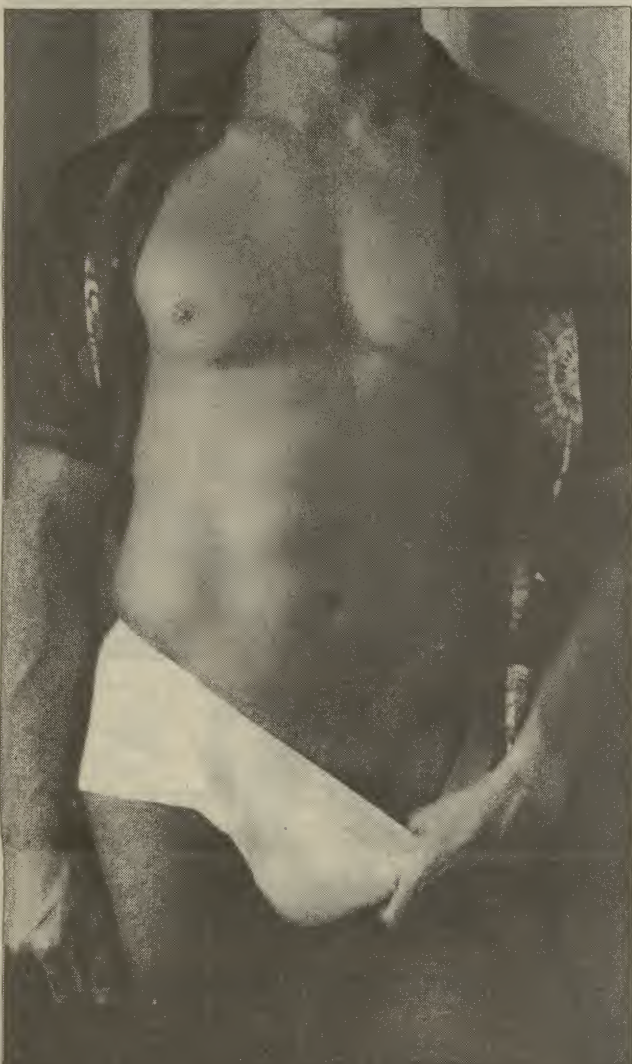
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IML '92 Lenny Broberg (r) (shown here with Mr. SF Leather Gary Virginia) emceed the Mr. Daddy's Leather contest last week.

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PARTING GLANCES

Xtra Hairy Red/Farmer's Market
Wed. Sept. 4 at 3 PM. You: xtra hairy red head, sunglasses, backpack, short hair, sideburns. Me: WM, flat-top, green glasses, green & blue shirt, followed you in & out of library. Saw your blue boxer shorts. I was too excited to speak. Please call. ☎ 5301.

Central Y Sauna About 3 Weeks Ago, and in eleven months ago. Let's continue where we left off. Call now! ☎ 5302.

Ultimate Ear Ornament
You: shaved head, bushy goatee, silver bar piercing in right ear—hot! Me: 6', beard, short clipped hair. You: tall, brown hair, white sweat-shirt, jeans. I said hello. You were cold and left. You're cute! ☎ 5303.

Sunday March 2, 6PM Harvest
You: Italian "Darwin." Me: Italian "Doc." Us: Cereal Shoppers. Let's keep in touch. Call. ☎ 5307.

GGG Beach Trunks 22 Feb.
Me: tan construction boots, Khaki shorts, short dark blonde messy hair. You: tall, brown hair, white sweat-shirt, jeans. I said hello. You were cold and left. You're cute! ☎ 5305.

Thurs. Feb. 20th During 'Friends'
You: Italian "Darwin." Me: Italian "Doc." Us: Cereal Shoppers. Let's keep in touch. Call. ☎ 5307.

Chris, We Met At Castro Muni
You were wearing large chain around waist, riding bike. March 1st about noon. We talked then hugged, as you rode away you said I love you. Please call Bruce, cause I need another bear hug from you! ☎ 5306.

George In The Red Long Johns
I met you at Castro Station, Sunday night February 23. Please call John on 18th Street. ☎ 5308.

Art After Modernism 3/5
Is there such a thing? Can't stop thinking of our meeting at the beach. Too nervous to tell you I enjoyed myself and I want to meet again. Anthony. ☎ 5401.

A Quarter To Pumpkin Time
Michael from Lafayette park, Monday night the 10th. Regret not dragging you home or at least getting your number...let's...again. ☎ 5403.

Ben From Fremont
Powerhouse 3/10. Enjoyed giving you a back rub. How about full body next time? Won't have friend this time. Hands are waiting. Robert from Sacramento. ☎ 5404.

Superstar Video
You noticed I wasn't wearing my glasses. You asked why. I told you. You came back a week later. I was wearing my glasses. I haven't seen you since. ☎ 5405.

3/10 Spike's Coffee Shop 5:30
You: dark hair, handsome, said your name was Vinson, drove a black car. We talked awhile would like to talk more, please call. ☎ 5406.

3/6 Blond Boy N' Touch
You sat next to me during show. I met you at Castro Station, Sunday night February 23. Please call John on 18th Street. ☎ 5308.

3/5 U-Wt Pick-up Vry Hry W/Brd
4:30 PM Castro & Duboce—you're wearing black T-shirt, white levis, studded belt, tattooed arms. I'm blond, mustache, denim shirt & jeans waiting for bus. I'm yours—please call! ☎ 5402.

United Fit 990, March 5
Can't stop thinking about you. You smiled and nodded. I followed. Want to see you again & play like we did in the lavatory over Texas & Nevada. ☎ 5501.

Delores park Boy Beach
Sunday 3/9, 3PM. You started leaving, our eyes met. (!!!) You stood looking back. Me: dumbstruck, short hair, blue shorts. You: buzz cut, goatee, jeans. Forgive my paralysis! ☎ 5502.

Muni Bus 42 To Wharf 3/4 4:30
Me: bl/bl, stache, glasses, from Arlington, VA, going to Underwater World. You: dark hair, glasses, handsome, work in card shop? Exited Nob/Russian Hill? Long shot, hope that you read BAR. ☎ 5503.

Grand Central Mkt Sun 3/16 7PM
You: baseball cap, handsome, goatee. Me: blond, red jacket, jeans. Was in hurry would have liked to talk—we smiled at check stand—how about dinner? ☎ 5504.

You Sang Danny Boy 3/9
Which was beautiful. I enjoyed your company. When you next visit DC, I'd love to take you to dinner. Jim. ☎ 5505.

Poor Superman Friday March 14
We said hello twice—how about a third time? Me: red head, green shirt. You: very sexy & handsome. Let's meet again. ☎ 5550.

Kinki's At Market St-Mon 3/17
2:30 in afternoon & we caught each other's smile. You: cute guy in blue jeans, driving a red Ford Explorer. Me: short guy w/mustache in red Miata. Liked your smile. Call me. ☎ 5551.

Return Of The Jedi Preview 3/11
At Galaxy theater, you: beard, lined jean jacket, unbuttoned white shirt, jeans. Me: beard, black T-shirt, black jeans, leather jacket. Exchanged several glances leaving theater. Would like to meet. Please call. ☎ 5552.

Powell St. BART 3/17 7:20PM
You: handsome, Latin brother (Ricán?) with red glasses & computer chipboard. Me: black guy in leather jacket reading. We both on Richmond train, you off at 12th St. Let's meet & talk stuff. ☎ 5553.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Ready For Love Again
GAM, 35, 5'10", 165#, HIV-, goodlooking, incurable romantic, lonely but shouldn't be 'cuz now I'm ready. ISO same GAM/GWM. ☎ 5309.

Honesty Is The Best Policy!
Goodlooking, youthful, 42yo, 5'9", 160 lbs., blue eyes, fair, blonde, HIV+, healthy with a great smile. Attracted to masculine goodlooking Latin men/dark feature men for dating with poss. of relationship. ☎ 5310.

San Jose Asian Bottom
28, 5'4", 120#, HIV-, smooth skin, athletic, seeks GWM/GAM top, 25-35, goodlooking, fit, masculine, no drug/fat, HIV-. Prefer live in or can travel to SJ. Sex, friendship & more. ☎ 5311.

Mr. Good Enough
Prof. GWM, early 50's, love to receive & give, slim, runner's body, with goatee & short hair. Lives outside SF looking for great smile & youthful face on confident & nurturing male. Prefer NS & healthy. Friends, LTR? ☎ 5312.

Love GWM
Slim, 5'10", 160#, 38 year old, like movies, dancing, NS, live in Napa, looking for GWM, 35 to 45, slim for LTR. ☎ 5313.

Oh No! I've Come To This.
GLM, 26, teacher, artist with photo fetish...ISO something more meaningful then a quickie. Coffee maybe? Scruffy queer boys (w/obs). Welcome to call. ☎ 5314.

First Time, Be Gentle
Intense-looking man, 28, new to CA seeking laid-back queers for friendship. I'm funny, friendly, no BS. Into travel, scuba, dancing, Star Trek. Wanna show me around? ☎ 5315.

Bottom GWM 29 ISO Top
For hot sweaty workouts at the gym, followed by hot sex. Let my mouth & butt service your big muscle meat. Both of us HIV- & ND. ☎ 5316.

Knock, Knock, Whose There? Me!
Charmingly cute, professionally creative, exceptionally kisser, hopelessly romantic GAM. Early 30's, 5'11", 150#, You? GWM, late 20's to 30's, sim. qualities, w/ht prop, to share/pursue a loving passionate & adventurous relationship together! ☎ 5317.

Romantic Dreamer—Sexy Poet
Nordic Blonde/blue eyed, self-employed writer-photographer, early 40's, in shape, & lovable. Seeks: LTR with 24-37 yo, dark-haired; eyes-mirror-soul. You: pre-med A+, collegiate type, handsome humorous, HIV-, unite, talents 4 success! ☎ 5318.

Fine Line Between Good/Evil
Me: GWM, 28, fit, NS, sexy, sassy, playful, moody, sarcastic, hip. You: white, under 33, fit, NS, sexy, sassy, playful, moody, sarcastic & hip. PS: note category. ☎ 5319.

Sexual Healing
GBM top, prof, 40's, ISO GWM bottom, 50 yrs or above who's physically & emotionally available to pursue a LTR. I'm a like smoker & drinker. You must be medium to stocky built. ☎ 5320.

Aries, Aquarius, Scorpio Wntd
You: 30-40, sense of humor, natural, jeans, barefoot & passion. I'm Swiss, 33, 5'2", 150, sexy, dark hair, brown eyes, sensitive, cute who seeks friendships & integration in SF. ☎ 5321.

I Have Everything Except...
GAM, 26, 5'8", 135#. Professional, fit, smooth, outdoorsy, independent, mellow, outgoing, non-smoker, seeks similar GWM, 23-33, for friends/LTR. You're out there...Gimme a call! ☎ 5322.

ISO 40-50yr Jack/Exec.
Mature, intelligent, masculine, classy, sincere, very handsome, healthy, HIV+, quality GBM 34, 5'9", 150 lb. ISO of larger, fit, masculine, distinguished jack/exec, 40-50 yr, for high quality LTR. Sincere men only. ☎ 5323.

Seeking Romance
Goodlooking GWM, 39, 6', 185#, & HIV+, is seeking friends, & more. I'm looking for Asian or Hispanic men who are positive, 25-35, NS/ND, & a light drinker. ☎ 5407.

Mexican Lover Wntd Napa/Solano
Passionate, masculine WM of Latin background, 38, 5'9", 180#, interests include: quiet home life, nature, road trips, low riders, sailing. Not into the gay scene. Monogamous relationship preferred Joe. ☎ 5408.

Be Realistic
No such thing as stable gay relationship. Seeking someone for sex, sex, sex. No commitment. Me: 30, 5'11", 180#, straight acting, muscular. You: 25-40, well built (bodybuilder +), no drugs. ☎ 5409.

Lonely Handsome Goatee BB
GWM, 33yo, 6', 210#, career oriented. Seeks GWM w/attributes: 1) 28-35yo 2) Single 3) Kind 4) Stable 5) Bodybuilder 6) goatee/must. LTR MUST be one of your goals. Little body hair pre'd, not nec'y. ☎ 5410.

Life Is A Banquet—Let's Enjoy
GWM, 42yo, academic, newly settled in Berkeley seeks friend(s) for weekend activities, dining, & intelligent conversation. Not looking for a sex partner just a friendly companion. ☎ 5411.

Good Company Is Hard To Find
Gay Filipino, 27, intelligent, fun, goodlooking, dry sense of humor, seeks GWM, mid 20's-30's, fit, smart, witty, funny, for great conversations, dinner & much more. ☎ 5412.

Handsome Muscular Italian
6'2", 185#, into fitness, travel, romance & quiet times, seeks another HIV-, extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship. ☎ 5413.

Very Attractive Latin 26
I'm HIV+, 5'7", 165#, muscular, solid build, extremely intelligent, seeking Latinos or Caucasians under 35 for friendship, maybe more. NS & open-minded only. ☎ 5414.

You Can Have It All
Hot GWM top, ISO hot bottom boy for fun & maybe more. UB: 30-40, GWM/GLM, good shape, clean shaven. Me: 45, 5'5", 145#, well equipped, secure, open & caring. ☎ 5415.

Attractive Latino
Goodlooking Latino, 31, 5'7", 150#, HIV-, dark hair, brown eyes, goatee, looking for GWM for friendship or maybe more. Between 25 and 37 years old. NS. Call me. ☎ 5416.

Mulatto Guy
Intelligent, highly-educated, sexy, goodlooking, seeks secure male for relationship or fun & good times. ☎ 5417.

Strict But Caring Leather Top
Seeks submissive boy-slave, 25-35, short, slim or gym-toned for domination, bondage, moderate SM, dog training, symphony, theater, etc. Brains a must, good looks desirable possible LTR. ☎ 5418.

Passionate—Romantic Asian
Sought by not too old, not too young Italian male for friendship, romantic interludes. no hang ups. Cuddling, caressing, leading to ultimate moment of truth. Someone who enjoys togetherness. ☎ 5506.

Affectionate LM
Affectionate LM, 42, 6', 150#. ISO WM or LM over 35 for possible relationship. Prefer blue collar, non-professional, rustic looking Tendorino types, no drugs, gyms, gay scene, Republicans. Smokers A+. ☎ 5507.

Hopeful Romantic Pos Man
GWM, 43yo, 5'11", 180#, masculine, dark hair/eyes, furry, good build, into outdoors, bike riding, hiking, travel, cooking, old movies, beaches, sunsets, kissing, romance, honesty, passion, commitment, hot sex, relationship. ☎ 5508.

Tall, Dark & Fashionable
GBM seeks other HIV-, GLM/GBM for LTR. Me: 6'3", 195#, cute, good sense of humor. You: top, enjoys sports, long walks, lots of fun. 25-45 years of age. ☎ 5509.

GAM ISO GWM
GAM, 31, 6', 165 lbs, is looking for steady boyfriend (GWM btwn 25-40 yrs). New in town like to get over with boredom. ☎ 5510.

Attractive Hispanic
GLM, 31, black hair, brown eyes, goatee, very affectionate, HIV-, professional 5'7", 150#, looking for GWM or Italian for friendship or maybe more. Call me! ☎ 5511.

Is It In The Stars?
top seeks Leo or Sagittarius bottom. Sex, friendship, or LTR? ☎ 5520.

Romance Under The Moon
GAM, 29, 5'8", 165, enjoy outdoor activity and travel, looking for romance and possible relationship with GWM/GLM, 22-35, professional & have nice body. ☎ 5512.

HIV Blu Collar Sm Time Operator
Black, low key, med br skin, 5'10", 170#, thin build. Enjoy working with hands, fixing, making, restoring things. you: race unimportant, thin or lean build, under fifty into outdoor activities. Sorry no bear types. ☎ 5513.

ISO Dominant 40's
Attractive, in shape, 43, 5'7", 145, nice guy, sense of humor, professional, interests, outdoors, seeks guy with dominant verbal side, in shape, masc, HIV-, career, stable, interests. (balding, beard, goatee +). ☎ 5514.

Prostate Massage For GBM
GWM, 43, 6', 185#, HIV-, for safe, relaxing, pleasurable fun. Reciprocal welcome but not required. ☎ 5515.

Big Feet Big Hands
GWM, 6'8", 250#, brown/green, goatee, artist, gourmet cook, sports fan, movie/theater gear, seeks someone with similar interests for dating and maybe more. ☎ 5516.

Athletic Asian
49, 5'9", 150#, seeks smooth, clean-shaven, gym-toned WM into hiking, work-outs, sports, dancing, arts & travel for urban & wilderness adventures. ☎ 5517.

Goodlooking, Healthy GAM
39, 145#, looking for long term monogamous relationship. You must be passionate. Enjoy outdoor activities, and under 35. ☎ 5518.

Elmo Looking For Cookie Monster
GBM, 36, outgoing personality 195 lbs, 6', hairy bottom seeking LTR with a spontaneous, easy guy with a stable personality. ☎ 5519.

Massage Strong & Lengthy
Wanted by handsome, athletic, smooth, friendly Asian male on a regular basis. I want full body erotic massage. ☎ 5521.

Middle-Eastern Looking
5'9", 150, attractive accent seeks masculine man (who doesn't) to early 40th for the right adventure. ☎ 5522.

Wanted: Leather Daddy For LTR
Hot GWM, 40, 180, 5'11", needs full time Daddy into BS, BD, spankings, humiliation, chastity, catheters, diapers, shaving, mild SM, & oral service. You: 30-50, hot, experienced & serious. Diapers a must, sir! ☎ 5524.

Looking For Love
Attractive 47 year old white male. Blond, blue eyes, 195, 6', caring, affectionate. loves music, massage, dancing, movies, intimacy at home. Looking for Asian, white males under 40. ☎ 5525.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

I Wanna Suck Your Butt
Italian whore, 43, 6', 190#, goatee, wants to bury my tongue up your hot, clean butt. Late night (12-5AM) Sex in the Castro. Call & get off tonight! ☎ 5324.

Down On The Monterey Peninsula
Goodlooking guy, HIV-, 26 yr old, 6'4", 195 lbs., sends an extended invitation to enjoy!!? Hopes to hear from you! Go for it! ☎ 5325.

Hot Muscle Jocks & Bodybuilder
Wanted Get erotic massage & vids. Ricc. ☎ 5326.

Naturally All Top Or Bottom?
Not "politically correct" but know who you are & would find role trading an unnatural turn-off? tell me about yourself & let's explore our common desires, interests, and needs. ☎ 5327.

Longhairs Unite!
30yo, 6', 155#, European w/thick long wavy brown hair seeks androgynous, pretty or feminine man w/full head of long hair. ☎ 5328.

V. Hung Black Men Hot & Verbal
WM, 40's, hung, slim, hot, sexy, HIV- ISO sex buddy. Discreet only for hot oral mutual swallowing. ☎ 5329.

Asians W/Prince Albert Into
Verbal abuse & giving orders. In shape, 30, hairy man, you be very in shape, too. ☎ 5330.

Weekday Afternoon Dick—
Thick, hard, rechargeable to fill your throat or butt. I'm hairy, bearded GWM, 45, overweight—with place & car weekday afternoons. Any race. ☎ 5331.

Young College Guy Seeks Same
21 y/o white college guy seeks other college guys for fun times, hot sex, GWM, 45, overweight—with place & car weekday afternoons. Any race. ☎ 5332.

Santa Rosa Area Dildo Action
Attractive GWM bottom exhibitionist seeks tops for nasty dirty play. Interests include big toys, dirty talk, mirrors, possibly video taping. SF also. All call returned. Let's play with my hole! 5333.

Bend Over/Drop Pants/Spread Em
You know it—I know it—you need a spanking. You're 18-33, attractive, with nice round buttocks. Submit "boy" to firm but fun-loving, handsome chunky "Uncle." Asshole fingering an option! 5334.

I Am A BM 38
6'1", 195#, looking for someone 18-50, for fun. Must be hung 9" or more. I want to BJ you. 5335.

Uncut Sexy Not Young
Me: 5'6", 152#, hair S&P, hazel eyes, big mustache. Likes to make love, bicycle, movies, garden, sun, ND/NS, HIVE OK, Call again I missed your message. 5336.

Oral Foreplay Then Fuck Me!
Tops wanted by goodlooking GWM, 6'3", 170#, 47, S&P hair, brown, mustache, goatee, smooth. Prefer HIV+, W/H, smokers who know who they are & what they want. N/D, NS&M. 5337.

Too Big For Your Britches?
WM, 37, muscular, hot, handsome. ISO extra hung men for daytime action. Serious only. 5338.

SF & N. Bay Bottom
GWM w/lot, tight, hairy, small ass. Seeking hung men that love to fuck. Let's explore more w/my ass. I'm very clean & horny & like to suck cock. I'm 56, 120, brn/blu, HIV-, 5'2", 7", mustache. I'll try anything once!! Wkday eve, weekends. 5339.

Take Charge Top
No BS man, 40, 5'10", 160, 8", work out, seeks in shape, submissive younger guy to work over. Into: verbal abuse, oral service, collars, rim sear, dildos, bondage, long sessions. 5340.

GLM ISO GWM/GBM
For discreet encounters, my place, late afternoons, early evenings. Me: 30 yrs, 5'11", HIV-, bottom, slim. You: 6' or taller, 35-50 yrs, HIV-, top, facial hair preferred. 5341.

SF Over 50 WM Gum Job Wanted
WM, 44, 5'10", 165 lbs., med bid, brn/br, mustache, HIV-, 7'X5 1/2" cut cock ringed meat, kicks back for hungry deep throater. I will come to your service only. 5342.

Ready For More Serious SM, BD
Together slim, fit, early 50's, professional GWM increasingly identifying with submissive nature ISO dominant top partner for serious SM, BD, WS, & fantasy exploration. We are both HIV-, play safe. 5343.

Expert Cocksucker
Senior GWM, 5'7", 130#, begs to worship masc, verbal topman, over 40, wgt. proportion. Cauc or Asian. 5344.

Submissive Boy Seeks Dom Top
Need masculine stud to service. Love to be fucked. Into leather & uniforms. Like to be fucked. Blacks, Latinos & Italians especially welcomed. Call now. 5345.

Top Wanted
Masculine, gym toned, attractive WM bottom, 35, 5'10", 170#, seeks in-shape toned top between 21-40, for safe sex encounters. 5419.

I Want An Average Guy With An Average piece of meat. I love sucking dick, eating ass & taking a dick up my butt. I'm hot, Italian, 43, goatee, 6', 195#, & always horny. Late night sex. 5420.

Kick Back!
GWM, 5'10", 160, br/br, c/n. shaven, fun, friendly, luv to suck for a long time. Sk masc, trim GWM, GAM, 18-40, couples OK. Reg service? 5421.

Hot Asian Looks 4 Sm Build GWM
NS/ND, HIV-, open to LTR. Let's talk & have fun & enjoy life. Prefer skinny/slender. 5422.

Anal Slutmaster
I want to stick my rock hard dick (8") up your rock hard body. Put out Queen muscle boys! Tight muscle butt 7 muscle waist 31" or less demanded. Fuck! Fuck! Fuck! 5423.

Dominant Dad
Dad, 50, in shape, 6', 185# seeks sons, 20-35, for B/D, hole exploration, adoption & caring. 5424.

Seeking Private SF Glory Hole
Bi WM, 40's, HIV-, average build needs through your private hole, 2-3x week. You: HIV-, slim or muscular, expert deep throat cum lover. I cum several times per visit. 5425.

Richmond N. Bay
GWM HIV- seeking well hung top. Any race, who loves to fuck my hairy, horny, little ass, deeply. I'm 56, 5'2", stache, brn/blu. Plus only 115 lbs. & very clean. I like to suck & get throated!! I also have other fantasies. Smk/drkr OK. Thick cocks A+. PS wkdays, weekends, are best. 5441.

Folie A Deux?
WM, 50, blond, bearish, still HIV-, anti-social, seeks sexual or other partner for outdoors (PL Reyes, Filbert Steps) and outdoors (Lumiere, Wukong). No goates. Man enough? 5426.

Strip!
Ever fantasize being made to strip in front of a group of guys? Group now forming. Be 25-50, fit, masculine, creative. Call with your stats & fantasy. 5427.

Afternoon Sex Bottom Wanted
Ass massage-erotic spanking, repeated stinging will turn to a pleasurable sensation after awhile if done right. Me: attract, GWM, 46, 6'5", 250 lbs., husky. You: attract, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth/moderate hair, nice buns. 5428.

Handsome HIV+ Italian Top
Seeks HIV+ guys, 20-40. I'm 36, 6'2", 185#, nice shape with big hands & bigger heart. I like massage, good books, good wine & bottom boys. 5429.

Wrestler Wanted
By same. Big bear, hairy, 40, all +. For hot sweating matches. Serious only. Is better. 5430.

Hot Fucking Man To Man Sex
And lots of it. I'm handsome, muscular, hung & always horny. Fuck me, suck me, and I'll do the same to you. 5431.

Great Head By Oral Expert
No reciprocation nec. Your place Sonoma county. Days or weekends. 5432.

Cute Younger Seeks Sexy Older
Life before 52 is just a rehearsal says ex int'l television model new in US, 27, 6'1", 157#, with smooth tan skin & cute bubble buns, seeks charismatic sexy classy mature gentlemen, 52-69. 5433.

Attention Black Men
GWM with smooth deep bottom seeks black men for regular sexual sessions—afternoons or evenings. Waiting your call. 5434.

Work My Tits Daddy
Looking for JO daddy. Jack me off, tie it up. Role play & more. You: 35-60, fun, aggressive, horny. Me: HIV+, tall, attractive, decent body, 30's. Let's get nasty. 5435.

Seeking Dominant Young Men
18-32 to use & degrade goodlooking, like fit & hairy butt dad, 41. Into macho, built tough guys, especially skinheads or short punks who'll verbally abuse me & make me suck, rim, worship boots, drink piss. 5436.

All Oral Service—Delivered
SF GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to mature, trim guys who really dig getting sucked off. Your place. No reciprocation. HIV-. 5437.

Hot Nasty Boys Only
For long sessions of butt play. UB: 25-40, GWM/GLM, good shape, clean shave, like taking it up your hot ass. Me: 41 yo, GWM top, 5'6", 145#, good body, great tool. 5438.

Bring Me Your Cock-Love Cock!
Haven't met a cock yet I didn't like. Lick to stroke, lick, suck on it. Love foreskin too-pull, nibble, chew on it. Like on going buddy for discreet xtra play wkdays. Have LTR-seek xtra fun & play. HIV-, 5'10", smooth, 168#, real sincere person. 5439.

Abduction Adventure
After rules are established mutually, a date is set for your abduction and "interrogation" by two handsome, fit leather tops. Twelve hour from capture to release. 5440.

Butt Boy For Stud/Dad
Clean cut, nice looking GWM, 60 yrs, 5'8", 180, br/br, 7 and oral, wants GW masc., submissive. 5531.

Eastbay Dad Looking For Boy
Into Bondage/submitting/training. 18-35, some experience but eagerness to learn/please A+. Me: 40's, in shape, experienced, sadistic but sane, limits respected, expanded over time. 5442.

Italian Guys!!!
I'm the guy who knows what the Italian male really wants. 5443.

Hung Guys Wanted!!
I'm looking for guys who are hung 9 inches or more for fun & good times. 5444.

Bi White Muscle Sks Same Black
Built, muscled, meaty, hard body dude, 6/195, 40, seeks other str8, macho, built or meaty Black/Latino dude, 18-50, into str8+ videos and occasional nut. 5445.

GBM HIV+ Seeks GWM Top
Healthy HIV+ GBM, 6', 180. Seeks GWM top. Tell me how you want me to take it. Days OK. 5446.

Watch Porn
Smoke, stroke & poke—Cigars, cock, toys. Your place. 5523.

Seek Afternoon Cock Play Buddy
Let's give each other sensual pleasure w/licking, roaming hands, stroking, licking & sucking. Ball play, also healthy, HIV-, late 40's, 6', 169 lbs. Discreet, sincere, friendly. Thanks. 5524.

Hot Latino Guy Likes To Suck
Big dicks. Also get fucked. Redwood city area. I'm 29 years old. Please call. 5525.

Tall, Hung, Hairy, Bearded Dad
Totally masculine Dad into butch hairy stashed sons, any age & other hairy Dads who want to be jacked & suckin' buddies. Expert cocksucker. 5526.

Like To Give Head??
GWM, 37, dark hair, olive skin, horny. For guys that can give me head for hours—trust me. I can last. UB: GWM, GLM, 18-40, with wet mouth! Nice cock. Will travel. 5527.

Hot Submissive GWM
Seeks to tie between the legs of big dommed master. Let me work on it. UB: GWM, GLM, 18-40, with wet mouth! Nice cock. Will travel. 5528.

Looking For One Special Guy
To fuck my face on a regular basis—late night sex—Castro location. hot Italian cocksucker, hungry to service you & get you off regularly. I eat ass too. 5529.

Looking GLM/GBM For Hot Times
GWM, 44 years young (look 30's), blue/brown, 6', 148#, slim-build, gym-toned, goatee, top & HIV-. Seeking GLM/GBM, 21-50, for playmates & safe sex. 5530.

Bareback Top Seeks Companion
GWM, 60, nice looking, 6'1", 165#, warm, caring, HIV-, endowed, seeks gentle friend for cuddling, kissing, complete external/internal massage sessions/overnights. LTR desired. No smoking/drugs. Any age/race. 5532.

Sacramento Cuntass
46, 5'8", 155 lbs., smooth, shaved, pierced, TT, CBT, FF, leather, aroma, smoke, etc. HIV+ your place. 5533.

Fun Manhole
Plungepound your hungry hand into my deep, white, hot, flesh—hot man seeks same for intimate prolonged session. 5534.

Hot Bottom Wants Fuck Buddy
SGWM, brn/hzl, 5'11", 175, 7", 50, HIV+, workout. ISO under 50, in shape with hungry mouth and cock to service a seasoned bottom—deep kissing, rimming, fucking my mouth & ass, sucking. Daytime or evening. 3 ways OK. Regular servicing. 5559.

"Married" 38 Longhaired 5'11"
175 lbs, seeks one-on-one encounters or in-shape couples. Tight virgin butt—very orally inclined & affectionate. Hairy bodies, red/blonde hair a plus but not a necessity. Discreet. 5535.

No Gag Reflex—! Swear!!
Zone out for comprehensive oral relief from this GWM with no gag reflex and hyper salivary throat. Other particulars: 6/170/40s/hair-challenged, big-grinned, big-hearted, and fairly big-brained nice fella. And welcome back, returns! 5536.

Mature Mules
WM, 36, 5'11", 157 lbs, brn/brn, attract, slim but out-of-shape, big dick, very, seeks fantasy with hung, hairy, over 55, B/W/L top. Hung only, couples considered. 5537.

Total Anal Bottom Bear
45, 5'10", 185#, beard, balding, hairy. I'm on my belly, my big white ass waiting for studs to fuck my asshole. All ages/races. Maybe gang fuck me! 5538.

Hot Handsome Hung Top...
GWM, 40's, 6', 165#, br/gr, healthy HIV+, established, affectionate, romantic, at home kind of guy. Seeking masculine, in shape bottom, hairy, beard, uncut A+. 5537.

Tall Curious Bottom
Seeks passionate top. Any race, 18-45, 5'10" or taller. 8" or more. ND/NS, HIV-. 5558.

Wanna Fuck...Now?
Masc, trim, GWM, 39, 5'11", 147#, hot horny ass ready to be fucked by masc bareback fuckers only. 5560.

Attached Italian Sks Similar
40yo, 190#, 5'11", br(bald)/br, hairy, goatee, hung top in LTR. Sks other GWM in SF for discreet sexual pleasure. Vers & hairy A+. 5561.

Just Shut Up And Ride
WM, 30, 5'10", 195#, blonde-blue-eyed, muscle hunk wants good-looking & masculine men to pump me full of squirt—anytime. 5564.

FETISHES

You've Been Bad
Now it's time to get punished! 45 yo guy spansks bad boys in different positions, but you'll end up with your bare ass over my knee. You under 40, boyish. 5346.

Black Rubber & Leather
(Cats masks, etc.) excites us. GAM, 32, 5'10", 150#, seeks hairy GWM w/gear, private place. We're both masculine, attractive, slim, HIV-, discreet, passionate. Not into S&M, body modifications, substance use. 5347.

Tie Me Down & Discipline Me!
Leather bottom seeks experienced leather top for bondage & serious yet consensual S&M play. Am 39, 5'11" good looks & build, safe sex oriented, discreet, no drugs. 5348.

I Need A Nasty Nipple Kneader
Start slow; tickle & tease me. I'll beg for the pectoral punishment I require. Reciprocation optional. Me: 48, handsome, bearish GWM, expert cocksucker on demand, you: enthusiastic titman, any race. 5349.

Dress Socks
Handsome, sexy prof Asian, 26, 5'11", 155, would like to meet meshing and masculine prof GWM, 26-40, into dress socks. Reserved, classy, and business-types a plus. HIV-. 5447.

Handball Party Time
If you're a heavy duty power trip top fist, any age, race, for action, above all else, and want someone who can keep up with you, even enjoy it, call me anytime. 7 days a wk. I have bondage sling, toys, etc. In or out. Top, cpls, groups welcome. 5540.

Spread 'Em, Cocksucker
No. Bay GWM, 35, 6', 165#, handsome, to service uniformed cops, CHP, sheriff dep., my place, discreet, no reciprocation. Cum & fulfill a fantasy. 5448.

Facial Piercings Turn Me On
GWM, 38, 6', 150#, mustache. Men with facial piercings really turn me on. ISO men with piercings for safe, hot fun. All ages (18+), shapes, types welcome. No S&M, pain. 5449.

Vacuum Pump Buddies Sought
By GWM, 35, 6', 165#, handsome, fit, HIV-, hung 8" with big low hangers. You: 20-35, let me, fit, handsome, hung 7+" HIV-, NS/ND, and have pumped before. 5450.

Take A Load Off
44yo goodlooking GWM has rim seat available for hot GWM, 35-50. Sit down, relax and let my hungry tongue probe your dirty tunnel. Feeding scene possible. 5451.

Genital Games
Same sadist ISO bottom for CBT. Lite to industrial strength. Imaginative, hot top, 45, muscles, leather, tats. Limits expanded. Be in shape. 5452.

Scat Water Sports
GWM seeks white, handsome, 22-45. Me: 5'10", mustache, short beard, HIV-. Maybe on going, friendship. No fats or fems. 5453.

Old-Fashioned Spanking Needed
GWM, 40's, needs a man's hand on my pants, under pants & bare bottom. Over the knee, pants down, corporal punishment administered by dominant, experienced man required. Discipline not S&M. Thank you, sir. 5454.

Daytime Asshole Eater
"Get your asshole eaten by a pro." 5455.

Nasty Hole Fuck Buddy
Give me your nasty hole and I'll give you mine. BM, 39, slim, 9" seeks fuck buddy, 18-40, hung, big bulk. Let's fuck— 5456.

Show Off For A Digital Camera!
...and take home a GIF or JPG to use on your computer, BBS or Internet. Amateur photographer but experienced fluffer! 5457.

Feet Dark Socks And More
Goodlooking Latino, 30, 5'11", HIV-, dark features, NS/ND, Virgo. Would like to meet Latinos or whites under 32 into foot fetish. Serious only. No games, no lies. 5464.

Black Meat Passion
Well built, well endowed 52 yr old WM has passion for huge hung, thick, younger, well built, black males. Kick back for serious deep throat service now! 5458.

Wants Cock & Ball Torture
SJ bear is looking for experienced top to stretch my testicles, stimulate by cock with unique methods, and teach me the pain/pleasure of CBT. 5538.

Hoods & Flogging
Roofie, blue collar punk, wears derby jackets, shaved head needs sever flogging, 28 years-tattoos, cholis, street punks, boot stompers only. 5539.

Sit On A Happy Face!
Husky, hairy Daddy bear, mid 40's, wants to eat your fuzzy butt. UB under 40, in-shape, attractive with a hairy hole. Reciprocation and on going great. your place please. 5541.

Rim Chair Service
Your hole must protrude & have lots of lip on it. You: hot, in shape, 21-45. me: very attractive, hot, great tongue, 40, 5'11", 165#. 5542.

Huge Pecs?
Muscular, clean cut WM, 42, 6', 185#, HIV-. Serious, strong, all-male. Seeks beefy, fit, passive WM with massive, erogenous pecs. Masculine, modest, sincere. 5543.

Guy W/Toe Ring Sks Barefoot
Buddy masculine, tan, goodlooking East Bay GWM, 5'8", 140#, HIV-craves reciprocal foot licking, smelling, caressing, massaging, naked body closeness, safe JO, fantasies, light odor, toughened soles OK. Further friendship possible. 5544.

Bondage For Asians
WM, late 40's, will strip, tie you up, play with your cock/balls/tits & make you cum. Muscular a plus. 5545.

Hot Nasty 54 Wants His Ass
Tongued by GWM/GBM only Concord. This 54 yr old is lking to have his ass tongued deep inside by other GWM/GBM. S 5546.

Bald GLM Uncut Active Daddy
59, 5'8", 180#, & bond, passive cut GWM son 45, 5'10", 160#, seek 3-way kink fun with mature only 35+; spanking, dressing-up, bondage, WS, video, toys & safe ass play. 5547.

Gangbangs?
Tall, gding top seeking other attractive tops interested in getting together on semi-reg basis for some GB fun. Must be willing to participate no just watch. Let's talk. 5548.

Leather Bottom Seeks Flogging
Experienced leather bondage bottom, 46, seeks safe, sane, experienced sensual flogging leather top. Wanting to start patiently in order to fly. No drugs. 5562.

COUPLES

Asian White Couple Sought
50ish GAM & 30ish GWM ISO couple to share one or more interests: travel/Hawaii, nudist outings, bridge games, on-going friendship. We are NS, enjoy singing & fine arts. 5350.

Looking For Hot GW Couple
Lovers or boyfriends who want a third. I'm 38, 5'11", 165#, blonde, blue eyes, clean cut, HIV-, straight acting who likes 3-ways with similar hot guys. 5351.

3-Way Wanted
GWM, masculine, gym toned, 5'10", 170#, 35, seeks 3-ways with in shape male couples between 21-40, for regular fun sessions. 5459.

2 Hot Blond Guys
8" top and vers bottom with super throat & butt. Seeking studs with passionate fun attitudes. Hung 7" or bigger, under 44 and nice shape. 5459.

Sexy GAM Seeks GW Couples
Handsome GAM, 29, clean-cut, smooth-skinned seeks GW couples for hot sex. Let this guy next door take you fulfill your wildest fantasies. Blondes a plus. 5563.

OTHER

You Pose Naked—I Draw You
Just stand nude while I do a charcoal sketch. Take home a free drawing. Private studio. Day or night. Good bodies only. 5352.

Spare The Rod....
English former headmaster punishes young gentlemen. Respectable genteel environment, but naked boys will be thoroughly flogged. Upper Haight also Russian River. 5460.

Gay Asian Man
Looking for other gay males to play tennis—practice together to improve game—I play SF tennis leagues. Dedicated only! 5461.

Gay Artists!
I'm seeking other gay artists to get together to discuss art & have fun & good times. Contact me if interested. 5462.

PARTALK

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Out There

◀ page 39

"packing for the first time this evening" and then proceeded to pull out from her nether regions something that resembled a flattened **Egg McMuffin**, which she threw into the audience after exhorting the crowd, "Just don't eat it." Our scribe noticed the mysterious object being ground into the Troc floor by excited celebrants during the first strains of "Tainted Love." Ms. Sprinkle, who received a Venus Award for her pioneering efforts in the erotica field, delighted the assembled throng with a slightly addled act revolving around her — surprise — bodacious breasts. Annie smeared her infamous knockers (sticking out through two doilies) with chocolate, sprinkled them with — well — sprinkles, and stuck a lit candle on each. Then, while her lover **Kimberly** belted out "Happy Birthday" on a guitar, she went into orgasmic orbit with the help of a Good Vibrations magic wand. Although Out There couldn't get close enough to the stage to tell, a Sprinkle fan breathlessly assured us that, yes, "Annie did squirt. I don't know if it was a real orgasm or a real squirt. It all seemed a little too fast to me, but there was definitely liquid. Just feel my shirt." Uh, no thanks, doll. We'll take your word for it.

Three's a crowd

From Divorce Court this week we've heard some vague rumblings about the breakup of a certain **SF Powercouple** known for their efforts in SF's film world. Word is that a certain interloper — an attractive young thing who was hired to maintain the Powercouple's personal affairs — got his tender loins in between the megaqueens, resulting in a show-down in which the elders' lawyers were called, dividends divided, and the his/her bath towels were burned.

Sexually ambivalent

Funny the things our friends find in the duty-free shops in airports. Seems someone in La La Land named **Grace Catalano** has



Leonardo DiCaprio

published a little tomette about **Leonardo DiCaprio**, the youthful, androgynous wag whose pretty mug graces the screen in *Basketball Diaries*, *Marvin's Room* and *Romeo & Juliet*. The book is the sort of breathless love letter one expects from a La La Land flak, only we hear from our airport-bound chum that the text does lend itself to a slightly complex reading of the actor's fascinatingly ambiguous sexuality. In one chapter, DiCaprio is quite candid about not enjoying the kissing scenes in *Total Eclipse*, in which he played **Rimbaud** to **David Thewlis'** *Verlaine*. A few pages later, however, young thing confesses he didn't much like having to kiss girls in *Basketball Diaries* either. Apparently there's still hope for Leonardo.

Superabundant Lily

Finally, with all the cloned sheep and monkeys cropping up these days, **Robert Julian** imagines **Lily Tomlin** in a *Boys from Brazil* scenario. Tomlin mailed out locks of her own hair to hundreds of people who contributed money to *The Celluloid Closet* project. Imagine a legion of lesbian fans taking those locks, extracting the DNA, and cloning an army of little Lylis. Then imagine the look on the aged Tomlin's face when all those little girls start showing up on her doorstep. **Jane Wagner**, are you listening? ▼

PERSONALS

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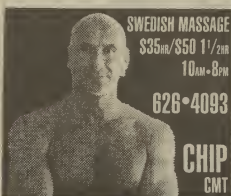
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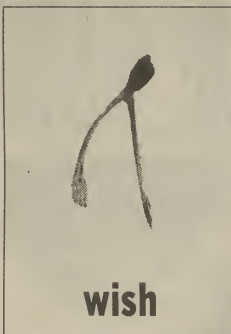
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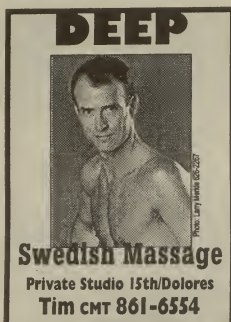
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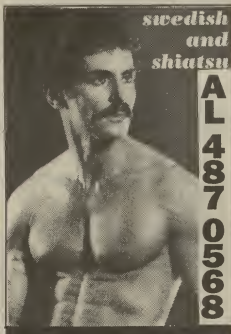
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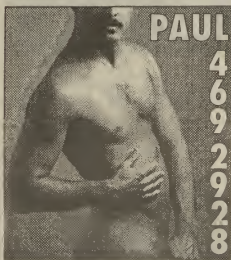
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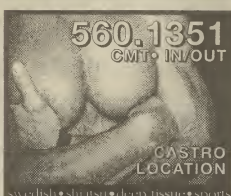
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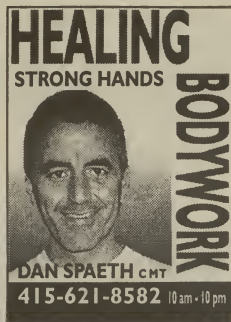
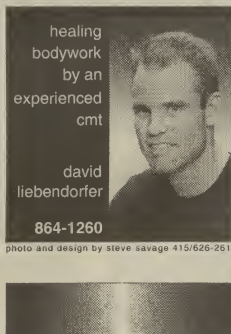
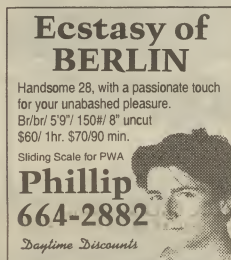
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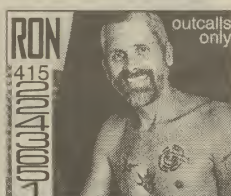
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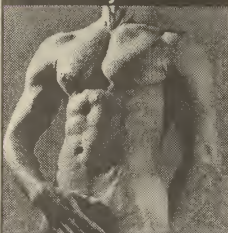
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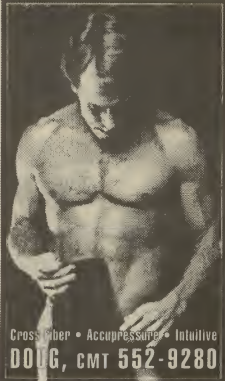
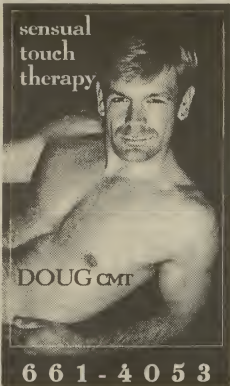
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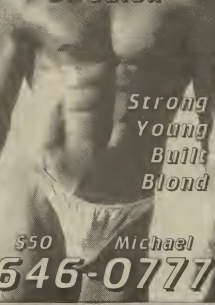
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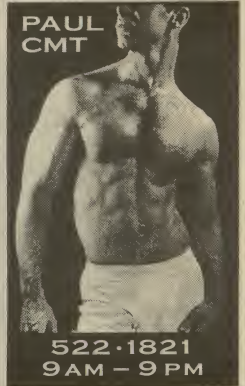
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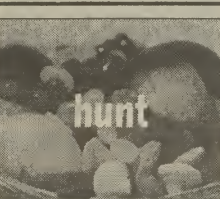
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 ADULTS ONLY / \$3 PER MINUTE / TELEMAR, NY, NY



the men's club

415.346.3311
 exclusive male escorts

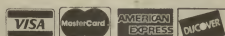
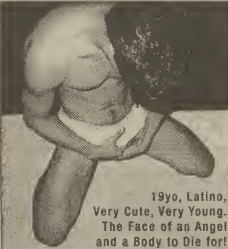


Photo: Chloe Atkins Ad: Service Station 252-8534

Handsome Friendly Clean Cut
 Blue Brown 28 6.2 180

Tim
 905.5828

SEXY TEEN BOY



19yo, Latino,
 Very Cute, Very Young.
 The Face of an Angel
 and a Body to Die for!

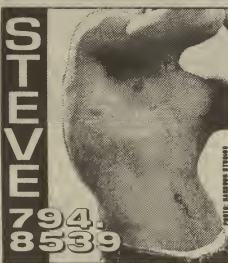
Page 679-3451 Out Only

AARON 621-6142



Blond
 26 YO
 Friendly
 Greatlooking

'greg'
 young
 french
 smooth
 livgrad
 joggunc
 hardlean
 69in66kil
 cut'6by6"
 hottes'tbut
 min&min96
 olmassage
 mostscenec
 8885AUCEYU



Bld, Blu, 180 lbs, 6' 2", Vgl, Vrstl
XMILITARY HUNGRY BOY
 Deep tight hot ass; 8X6c; travel; groups;
 Fantasy; Andrew: 888-310-0255

Cute 23 Yr Old
 140 lbs, 5'8", Smooth Clean Cut Call
 Chad at 241-9381

(916) 819-0447 SACTO

COLLEGE STUDENT
 26yo, Handsome, Intelligent, Fun 5'11",
 175, Bl/Blu, Furry chest/legs, Goatee.
 Pgr 764-7715 • 24Hrs • Out • Only

HOT ATHLETIC BOY 29
 Solid, Lean, Muscular
 Versatile, 5'10", 160#, 8X6
 Jake • Page 709-0338

ORAL SLAVE
 Hot Mouth, Deep Throat
 Gdiking Bld, 5'11", 155, 36, 575
 Available Evening & Wkends
 Pgr 496-0156

SUBMISSIVE SLAVE
 Enjoy your fantasy of owning a Slave
 & toilet. All kink & raunch scenes to
 Serve you sir. 346-4677

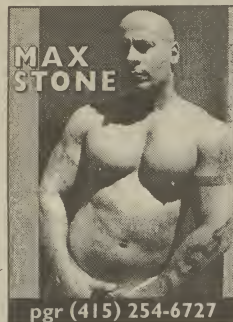
Hot! Masculine Guy. 30. Big Bone

**KICKS BACK
 FOR ORAL SERVICE**
 \$60/in SOMA Days OK Mark 864-7811

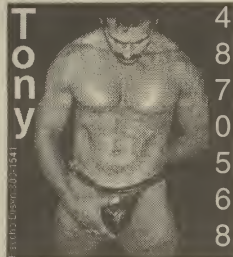
HIRED MAN
 Handsome Hung Versatile Tall Hair
 Luke • 24 Hrs • Pgr 605-4013 Visa/MC



**SEXY ENERGY
 W/O THE HYPE**
 compact torso
 great chest
 tight butt
 (415)
 487.1621
 Rick



**MAX
 STONE**
 pgr (415) 254-6727



Tony
 4
 8
 7
 0
 5
 6
 8

LEATHER KINK
 LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS
 WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS
 TAKING HIS TIME. TALL &
 BUILT. FULL PLAYROOM.
RICK 431-0959

Well Hung Black Top (Out) 273-1814

A Unique Massage Experience by Tall
 Texas Chamer 6'6" 195# Lean Toned
 Attractive Attentive Affectionate
 60/In 80/Out w/table complete
WAYNE 252-7443

Private J/O Strip Show
 Rates adjust to time
 10-15 minutes \$20 (in only)
 20-25 Min \$30 In, \$50/Out
 30 Min. & Up: \$40/In, \$60/Out
 Tall, Lean, Hung **MATT 552-7224**

YOUNG HUNK
 Handsome 24yo Muscular guy, who
 Likes his body worshiped 6'3", 250 lbs
 Damion 679-1684

Passionate Cute College Boy
NEW IN TOWN • 21 YRS •
 Seeking Regular • Short Term Clients
 Outcalls Only SF Pgr 253-3930

BROTHERS 25 & 27
 Masculine, white, athletic, hung
 Bone each other for your enjoyment
 The Real Deal Jason/David 267-5906

24hrs, B/D, W/S, FF, Top/btn, cuddly, hot
HOT HANDSOME REDHEAD
 33, 5'7", 130#, 7" cut, smooth
 firm build!! \$60 in/\$80 out pgr
 741-7061 hm 929-1803

**JOCK
 SOUTHBAY**
 408-744-4537

Irresistibly Handsome
20YO ASIAN BOY
 Cute, Hot & Smooth Body
 Make Daddy Happy P: 605-7590

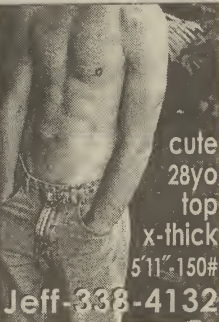
6'3" 225# FIREMAN
 28, very masc, mscl, & xhandsome.
 No Disappointments, Outcall 679-3168

WWW.BENTBAR.COM

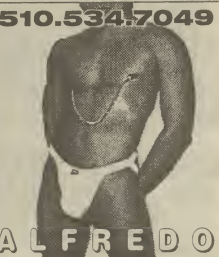
TALENTED HANDS
 Tattooed, goateed flattopped Texan
 39, 6', 170. Handsome, experienced,
 Laidback. Wayne 647-5274

ITALIAN BODY

Body Builder, 230 Lbs.
 6'1", 50" Ch, 20" A
 25 Years Old
 From Italy
207-9337



cute
 28yo
 top
 x-thick
 5'11" 150#
Jeff 338-4132



510.534.7049
ALFREDO

**MUSCULAR
 BUTCH-HUNG**
 baseball biceps, hard buffed
 body with a powertool ready
 for action. Pgr: 207-6786

Hot, Young, Tall, Smooth & Fun
 Alternative Boy • 21yo. in/out
MASON • 474-6786

CHECK ME OUT
 Buffed, athletic, nudist &
 Exhibitionist does it your
 Way. 26yo, energetic &
 Friendly. In/Out 527-8124

Tired Of The Rest Now Try Me
NEW IN TOWN
 Sexy Asian Boy Call 986-8848

To Service or Be Served
WHAT'S YOUR PLEASURE
 Hungry, Affectionate, 23
 Eric • 790-1172 • Out

LOVE TO KISS
 Sexy eyes, hairy chest, buzzed head.
 Enjoy the Irish passions of This
 38 y/o man. Sean 709-0016

Long Hair Goth Boy 24 In/Out 201-9840

30 yo, 5'7", 145, Smooth & E. Bay & SF
HOT LATIN TOP!
 Antonio (510) 883-8105/(510) 835-4521

Tall Slim Smooth Cute Blond Blu/Grn
SEXY FINE YOUNG MAN
 Free Charm & Wit on Request 253-8600

HOT COLLEGE BOY
BLOND, SEXY, VERSATILE
 23, nice, slender physique, hung Dave
 668-9053/376-3300 Pgr In & Out

SLAVE FOR SALE
 masculine, great body, obedient. BD,
 SM, kink, young 4 hung boy to serve
 you. In/Out 24hr David 527-8124

HUNG NASTY DAD
 6'4" 40s 195 7/5X6 Stache/goatee
 Gives Intense Erotic 2hr Massage to
 Naughty Boys All Areas Studnt disc
 \$35 in \$50 Out, Pgr 707-944-6575
 Lv# No msg, PAGE ME NOW BOY!

Beautiful Body! Hot! Masculine! In/Out
HUNG UNCUT TOP STUD
10X6: 303-6354: 24 HRS

Long Hair Goth Boy 24 In/Out 201-9840

PERSONALS

MODELS/ESCORTS



ATTRACTIVE, AFFECTIONATE AND DISCRETE
415-991-7907 TIM

MAX
208-3003

- Super defined
- w/ a beautiful exotic face
- College athlete
- Hot top/bottom
- 10 uncut inches
- 5'11"-175lbs



INDULGE YOURSELF
IN/OUT CALLS
357.0705



RUSTY
9x6
FALCON MODEL
(415) 280-8260



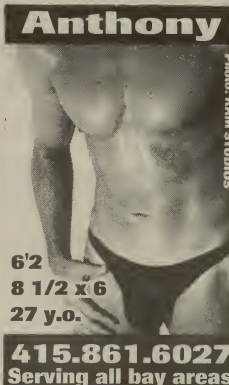
HOT MUSCLE BOY
CLARK
5'9"
160
270.0919



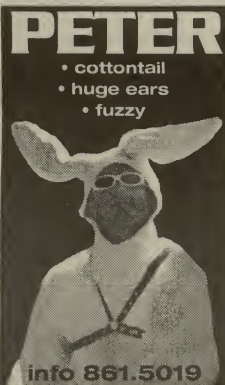
ITALIAN
807-9822



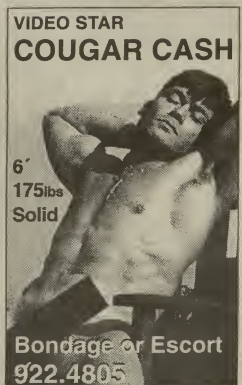
SCOTT
PAGER: 520.1799
9.5x5.75
IN/OUT 5100




Anthony
Photo: RAM STUDIOS
6'2"
8 1/2 x 6
27 y.o.
415.861.6027
Serving all bay areas



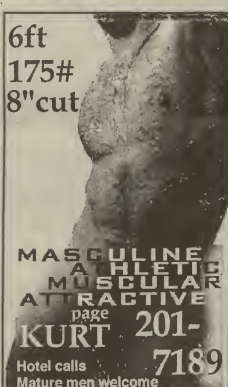
PETER
• cottontail
• huge ears
• fuzzy
info 861.5019



VIDEO STAR
COUGAR CASH
6'
175lbs
Solid
Bondage or Escort
922.4805



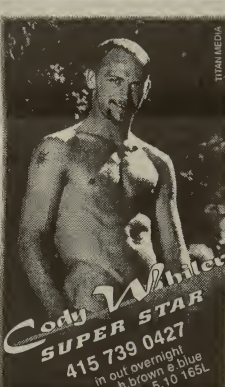
DAVID
TALL
HAIRY
HUNG
863-4847



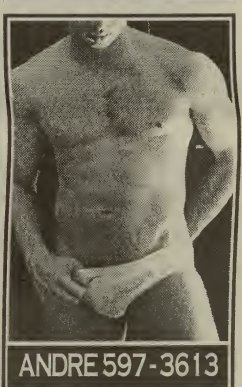
6ft
175#
8"cut
MASCULINE
ATHLETIC
MUSCULAR
ATTRACTIVE
page
KURT 201-
Hotel calls **7189**
Mature men welcome



Steve
Perfect Legs and Ass
6'2", 8"
Blond, Blue
22 yrd God
Harbour Studios 510.865.9646
415.552.8143



Cody Whitlee
SUPER STAR
415 739 0427
in out overnight
in brown & blue
5'10 165L



ANDRE 597-3613

BAY AREA REPORTER

PERSONALS ORDER FORM

Indicate
Type Style
Here ▼

X-Bold Stops Here ▼

Bold Stops Here ▼

Caps Stop Here ▼

Regular Stops Here ▼

DEADLINE

NOON on MONDAY. Payment must accompany ad. No ads taken over the telephone. If you have a question, call 415.861.5019. Display advertising rates available upon request.

RATES

First line, Regular 4.50
All subsequent lines 3.00
CAPS double price
BOLD double price
X-BOLD triple price

PAYMENT

- ☐ Cash
☐ Personal Check
☐ Money Order
☐ Visa
☐ MasterCard

Minimum \$10 charge
on Visa and MasterCard.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Card Number

Expiration Date

Signature

Name

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name

Telephone

Address

City

State

Zip

Number of Issues

Classification

Amount Enclosed

DELIVER OR
MAIL WITH
PAYMENT TO:

**BAY AREA
REPORTER**
395 Ninth Street
San Francisco,
CA 94103

WANT DICK, SEE DICK,
MEET DICK...

**GET
DICK!**

THE SLUT LINE—
TOTALLY UNCENSORED, ONE-TO-ONE
LIVE BACKROOM, INSTANT REPLY
BULLETIN BOARD FOR MEN WANTING
SEX NOW & PHOTO SWAPPING
TO SEE WHAT YOU'RE GETTING

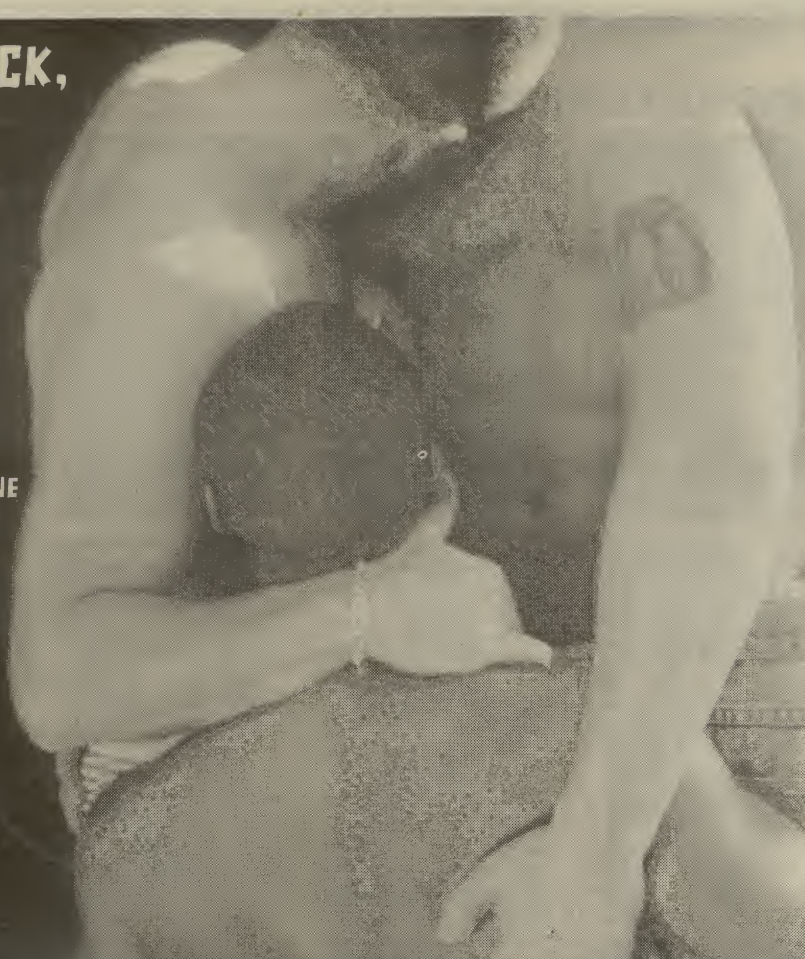
PLAY LONGER ON
THE SLUT LINE
IT'S CHEAP & DIRTY
1-900-844-5656
\$249 FOR 48 HOURS

FREE REGULAR & ESCORT LISTINGS
CALL 415-398-1616 USE PIN #95601



WWW.MASTERVU.COM

ADULTS ONLY/GAY OWNED AND OPERATED/CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS/212-688-4934 10AM-10PM



You don't need
a photo of some **plastic, overdone**
muscle clone to get you **hot.**

What you need is... **RAUNCHY MASTERS**
PIG BOTTOMS **SUBMISSIVE SLAVES**
HAIRY DADDIES **SWEATY JOCKS**
MUSCLE BOTTOMS **ROUGH TRADE**
SERVICE BOYS **AGGRESSIVE TOPS**
TOTAL SLUTS *What are you waiting for?*

Hot, live one-to-one & bulletin boards
24 hours for \$2.40—only 10¢ per hour!

H A R D C O R E
1-900-505-3333

FREE LISTINGS... call (415) 398-2600 & enter PIN #93602



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SEX ON THE EDGE